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LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: FAV	.	
01/28/2026	.	
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The Committee on Ethics and Elections (Grall) recommended the following:

**Senate Amendment (with title amendment)**

Delete lines 192 - 589

and insert:

(a) For any willful violation, a fine of up to \$500 per violation.

(b) For any repeated willful violation, a fine of up to \$2,000 per violation.

Section 3. Subsections (1) and (2) of section 112.313, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:



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11 112.313 Standards of conduct for public officers, employees  
12 of agencies, and local government attorneys.—

13 (1) DEFINITIONS ~~DEFINITION~~.—As used in this section, unless  
14 the context otherwise requires, the term:

15 (a) “Designated foreign terrorist organization” has the  
16 same meaning as in s. 775.32.

17 (b) “Foreign country of concern” has the same meaning as in  
18 s. 286.101(1).

19 (c) “Public officer” includes any person elected or  
20 appointed to hold office in any agency, including any person  
21 serving on an advisory body.

22 (2) SOLICITATION OR ACCEPTANCE OF GIFTS.—

23 (a) A ~~no~~ public officer, an employee of an agency, a local  
24 government attorney, or a candidate for nomination or election  
25 may not ~~shall~~ solicit or accept anything of value to the  
26 recipient, including a gift, loan, reward, promise of future  
27 employment, favor, or service, based upon any understanding that  
28 the vote, official action, or judgment of the public officer,  
29 employee, local government attorney, or candidate would be  
30 influenced thereby.

31 (b) A public officer, an employee of an agency, a local  
32 government attorney, or a candidate for nomination or election  
33 may not solicit or accept anything of value to the recipient,  
34 including a gift, loan, reward, promise of future employment,  
35 favor, or service, for any purpose, including, but not limited  
36 to, a gift from a designated foreign terrorist organization or  
37 any person or entity representing or acting on behalf of a  
38 foreign terrorist organization, or travel costs or any  
39 reimbursement for costs of attending a conference or other



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event, from a foreign country of concern or any of its subdivisions, or from any person or entity representing or acting on behalf of a foreign country of concern or any of its subdivisions.

Section 4. Paragraph (e) of subsection (2) of section 112.3142, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

112.3142 Ethics training for specified constitutional officers, elected municipal officers, commissioners of community redevelopment agencies, and elected local officers of independent special districts.—

(2)

(e) The commission shall adopt rules establishing minimum course content for the portion of an ethics training class which addresses s. 8, Art. II of the State Constitution and the Code of Ethics for Public Officers and Employees. By November 1, 2026, the commission shall adopt revised rules to supplement the minimum course content, including all of the following:

1. Known efforts by foreign countries of concern to target and influence subnational governments, including, but not limited to, the Chinese Communist Party's United Front strategy.

2. How to identify, recognize, and report suspected foreign influence campaigns.

3. Prohibitions on receiving gifts from foreign countries of concern as defined in s. 287.138 or designated foreign terrorist organizations as defined in s. 775.32.

Section 5. Present paragraph (d) of subsection (1) of section 287.138, Florida Statutes, is redesignated as paragraph (e), a new paragraph (d) is added to that subsection, and paragraph (c) of subsection (1) and subsections (2), (3), and



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(4) of that section are amended, to read:

287.138 Contracting with entities of foreign sources and  
countries of concern prohibited.—

(1) As used in this section, the term:

(c) “Foreign country of concern” means the People’s  
Republic of China, the Russian Federation, the Islamic Republic  
of Iran, the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, the Republic  
of Cuba, the Venezuelan regime of Nicolás Maduro, or the Syrian  
Arab Republic, including any agency of or any other entity under  
~~of~~ significant control of such foreign country of concern.

(d) “Foreign source of concern” has the same meaning as in  
s. 496.404.

(2)(a) A governmental entity may not knowingly enter into a  
contract with an entity in which a foreign source of concern has  
an ownership or controlling interest if the contract would give  
access to an individual’s personal identifying information.

(b) A governmental entity may not enter into a contract for  
information technology as defined in s. 282.0041, or for any  
services related to information technology, with an entity in  
which a foreign source of concern has an ownership or  
controlling interest or through a third-party seller when the  
information technology is designed, manufactured, or assembled  
by any entity in which a foreign source of concern has an  
ownership or controlling interest ~~if:~~

~~(a) The entity is owned by the government of a foreign  
country of concern;~~

~~(b) The government of a foreign country of concern has a  
controlling interest in the entity; or~~

~~(c) The entity is organized under the laws of or has its~~



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~~principal place of business in a foreign country of concern.~~

(3) Beginning July 1, 2026 ~~2025~~, a governmental entity may not extend or renew a contract with an entity listed in subsection (2) ~~paragraphs (2)(a)-(c)~~ if the contract would give such entity access to an individual's personal identifying information.

(4)(a) Beginning January 1, 2026 ~~2024~~, a governmental entity may not accept a bid on, a proposal for, or a reply to, or enter into, a contract with an entity which would grant the entity access to an individual's personal identifying information or involve information technology unless the entity provides the governmental entity with an affidavit signed by an officer or representative of the entity under penalty of perjury attesting that the entity does not meet any of the criteria in subsection (2) ~~paragraphs (2)(a)-(c)~~.

(b) Beginning July 1, 2026 ~~2025~~, when an entity extends or renews a contract with a governmental entity which would grant the entity access to an individual's personal identifying information, the entity must provide the governmental entity with an affidavit signed by an officer or a representative of the entity under penalty of perjury attesting that the entity does not meet any of the criteria in subsection (2) ~~paragraphs (2)(a)-(c)~~.

Section 6. Paragraph (a) of subsection (3) of section 288.816, Florida Statutes, is amended, and subsection (7) is added to that section, to read:

288.816 Intergovernmental relations.—

(3) The state protocol officer may:

(a) Coordinate and carry out activities designed to



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encourage the state and its subdivisions to participate in sister city and sister state affiliations with foreign countries and their subdivisions. Such activities may include a State of Florida sister cities conference. Such activities may not include encouragement of any affiliations with foreign countries of concern as defined in s. 288.860 or their subdivisions.

(7) The department shall publish on its website, to be updated quarterly, the following information:

(a) A current and accurate list of all foreign consulate offices.

(b) A current and accurate list of all sister city and sister state affiliations, including a copy of all such agreements.

Section 7. Subsections (3), (4), and (5) of section 288.8175, Florida Statutes, are amended, and a new subsection (7) is added to that section, to read:

288.8175 Linkage institutes between postsecondary institutions in this state and foreign countries.—

(3) Each institute must be co-administered in this state by a university-community college partnership, ~~as designated in subsection (5),~~ and must have a private sector and public sector advisory committee. The advisory committee must be representative of the international education and commercial interests of the state and may have members who are native to the foreign country partner. Six members must be appointed by the Department of Education. The Department of Education must appoint at least one member who is an international educator. The presidents, or their designees, of the participating university and community college must also serve on the advisory



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committee.

(4) The institutes are:

(a) Florida-Brazil Institute (University of Florida and Miami Dade College).

(b) Florida-Costa Rica Institute (Florida State University and Valencia College).

(c) Florida Caribbean Institute (Florida International University and Daytona State College).

(d) Florida-Canada Institute (University of Central Florida and Palm Beach State College).

~~(e) Florida-China Institute (University of West Florida, University of South Florida, and Eastern Florida State College).~~

(e)~~(f)~~ Florida-Japan Institute (University of South Florida, University of West Florida, and St. Petersburg College).

(f)~~(g)~~ Florida-France Institute (New College of the University of South Florida, Miami Dade College, and Florida State University).

(g)~~(h)~~ Florida-Israel Institute (Florida Atlantic University and Broward College).

(h)~~(i)~~ Florida-West Africa Institute (Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University, University of North Florida, and Florida State College at Jacksonville).

(i)~~(j)~~ Florida-Eastern Europe Institute (University of Central Florida and Lake-Sumter State College).

(j)~~(k)~~ Florida-Mexico Institute (Florida International University and Polk State College).

~~(5) Each institute is allowed to exempt from s. 1009.21 up to 25 full-time equivalent students per year from the respective~~



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~~host countries to study in any of the state universities or  
community colleges in this state as resident students for  
tuition purposes. The institute directors shall develop  
criteria, to be approved by the Department of Education, for the  
selection of these students. Students must return home within 3  
years after their tenure of graduate or undergraduate study for  
a length of time equal to their exemption period.~~

(7) A linkage institute may not enter into any agreement or  
participate in any activities with a foreign country of concern  
as defined in s. 288.860 or any organization in a foreign  
country of concern.

Section 8. Subsection (2) of section 288.860, Florida  
Statutes, is amended to read:

288.860 International cultural agreements.—

(2)(a) A state agency, political subdivision, or public  
school authorized to expend state-appropriated funds or levy ad  
valorem taxes may not participate in any agreement with or  
accept any grant from a foreign country of concern or its  
subdivisions, or any entity controlled by a foreign country of  
concern.

(b) All agreements under paragraph (a), including, but not  
limited to, sister city agreements, are terminated as of July 1,  
2026., which:

~~(a) Constrains the freedom of contract of such public  
entity;~~

~~(b) Allows the curriculum or values of a program in the  
state to be directed or controlled by the foreign country of  
concern; or~~

~~(c) Promotes an agenda detrimental to the safety or~~





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~~security of the United States or its residents. Before the  
execution of any cultural exchange agreement with a foreign  
country of concern, the substance of the agreement must be  
shared with federal agencies concerned with protecting national  
security or enforcing trade sanctions, embargoes, or other  
restrictions under federal law. If such federal agency provides  
information suggesting that such agreement promotes an agenda  
detrimental to the safety or security of the United States or  
its residents, the public entity may not enter into the  
agreement.~~

Section 9. Paragraphs (e) and (f) of subsection (14) of  
section 496.404, Florida Statutes, are amended, and paragraph  
(g) is added to that subsection, to read:

496.404 Definitions.—As used in ss. 496.401-496.424, the  
term:

(14) "Foreign source of concern" means any of the  
following:

(e) An agent, including a subsidiary or an affiliate of a  
foreign legal entity, acting on behalf of a foreign source of  
concern; ~~or~~

(f) An entity in which a person, entity, or collection of  
persons or entities described in paragraphs (a)-(e) has a  
controlling interest. As used in this paragraph, the term  
"controlling interest" means the possession of the power to  
direct or cause the direction of the management or policies of  
an entity, whether through ownership of securities, by contract,  
or otherwise. A person or an entity that directly or indirectly  
has the right to vote 25 percent or more of the voting interest  
of the company or is entitled to 25 percent or more of its



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profits is presumed to possess a controlling interest; or  
(g) A designated foreign terrorist organization as defined  
in s. 775.32 or an agent acting on behalf of a designated  
foreign terrorist organization.

Section 10. Subsection (3) of section 692.201, Florida  
Statutes, is amended to read:

692.201 Definitions.—As used in this part, the term:

(3) “Foreign country of concern” means the People’s  
Republic of China, the Russian Federation, the Islamic Republic  
of Iran, the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, the Republic  
of Cuba, the Venezuelan regime of Nicolás Maduro, or the Syrian  
Arab Republic, including any agency of or any other entity under  
~~of~~ significant control of such foreign country of concern.

Section 11. Section 692.21, Florida Statutes, is created to  
read:

692.21 Protection of state critical infrastructure  
facilities from a foreign source of concern.—

(1) As used in this section, the term:

(a) “Business entity” has the same meaning as in s.  
112.312.

(b) “Foreign source of concern” has the same meaning as in  
s. 496.404.

(c) “Governmental entity” has the same meaning as in s.  
287.138.

(2) (a) A governmental entity or a business entity  
constructing, repairing, operating, or otherwise having  
significant access to a critical infrastructure facility may not  
enter into a contract or other agreement relating to a critical  
infrastructure facility in this state with a foreign source of



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concern if the contract or agreement authorizes the foreign source of concern to directly or remotely access or otherwise control such critical infrastructure facility.

(b) A foreign source of concern may not enter into a contract or other agreement relating to critical infrastructure facilities in this state with a business entity constructing, repairing, operating, or otherwise having significant access to critical infrastructure facilities, or a governmental entity, if the contract or agreement authorizes the foreign source of concern to directly or remotely access or otherwise control such critical infrastructure facility.

(3)(a) Beginning January 1, 2027, a business entity constructing, repairing, operating, or otherwise having significant access to a critical infrastructure facility in this state which entered into a contract or other agreement before July 1, 2026, with a foreign source of concern relating to such critical infrastructure facility must register with the Department of Commerce by January 1 of each year for the remainder of the term of the contract or agreement with the foreign source of concern relating to such critical infrastructure facility. The Department of Commerce shall adopt a registration form that includes all of the following:

1. The name of the business entity constructing, repairing, operating, or otherwise having significant access to critical infrastructure facilities in this state.

2. The address of the critical infrastructure facility the business entity is constructing, repairing, or operating or to which the business entity otherwise has significant access.

3. A description of the specific terms of the contract or



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agreement which authorizes a foreign source of concern to engage in constructing, repairing, or operating or to otherwise have significant access to such critical infrastructure facility.

(b) A business entity that violates paragraph (a):

1. Is subject to a civil penalty of \$1,000 for each day the violation continues.

2. Commits a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.

(4) Before commencing any sale or other transfer of control of a critical infrastructure facility in this state, the business entity selling or otherwise transferring control of such critical infrastructure facility must provide an affidavit, signed under penalty of perjury, to the Department of Commerce attesting that the buyer or transferee is not a foreign source of concern.

(5) Information technology as defined in s. 282.0041 produced or manufactured by a foreign source of concern or a company under the direction or control of a foreign source of concern may not be used in a critical infrastructure facility located in or serving this state.

(6) The Department of Commerce shall adopt rules to implement this section.

Section 12. Section 775.08255, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

775.08255 Offenses by foreign agents; reclassification.—

(1) As used in this section, the term:

(a) "Agent of a foreign government or designated foreign terrorist organization" means a person acting on behalf of or otherwise employed or controlled by a foreign government or a



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designated foreign terrorist organization.

(b) "Designated foreign terrorist organization" has the same meaning as provided in s. 775.32.

(c) "Foreign government" has the same meaning as provided in s. 286.101.

(2) The penalty for any misdemeanor or felony may be reclassified if the commission of such misdemeanor or felony was for the purpose of benefiting, promoting, or furthering the interests of a foreign government, a designated foreign terrorist organization, or an agent of a foreign government or designated foreign terrorist organization. The reclassification is as follows:

(a) A misdemeanor of the second degree is reclassified to a misdemeanor of the first degree.

(b) A misdemeanor of the first degree is reclassified to a felony of the third degree.

(c) A felony of the third degree is reclassified to a felony of the second degree.

(d) A felony of the second degree is reclassified to a felony of the first degree.

(e) A felony of the first degree is reclassified to a life felony.

(3) In addition to any other penalties prescribed by law, a person convicted of a felony of the first degree or a life felony under this section shall be sentenced to a minimum term of imprisonment of 15 years.

Section 13. Section 775.36, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

775.36 Unauthorized enforcement of foreign law.—



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(1) As used in this section, the term:

(a) "Agent of a foreign government or designated foreign terrorist organization" means a person acting on behalf of or otherwise employed or controlled by a foreign government or a designated foreign terrorist organization.

(b) "Designated foreign terrorist organization" has the same meaning as provided in s. 775.32.

(c) "Foreign government" has the same meaning as in s. 286.101.

(2) Without the approval of this state or the United States, a person may not:

(a) Prevent another person in this state from violating the laws of a foreign government which are not also the laws of this state or the United States; or

(b) Investigate, monitor, or surveil another person in this state for the purpose of preventing the other person from violating the laws of a foreign government that are not also the laws of this state or the United States.

(3) A person who violates this section commits a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084. However, a person who violates this section for the purpose of benefiting, promoting, or furthering the interests of a foreign government, a designated foreign terrorist organization, or an agent of a foreign government or designated foreign terrorist organization commits a felony of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.

Section 14. Subsection (1) of section 316.0078, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:



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316.0078 Prohibition on contracting for camera systems of vendors of foreign countries of concern.—

(1) As used in this section, the term: ~~terms~~

(a) "Controlling interest" has the same meaning as in s. 287.138. ~~and~~

(b) "Foreign country of concern" means the People's Republic of China, the Russian Federation, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the Republic of Cuba, the Venezuelan regime of Nicolás Maduro, or the Syrian Arab Republic, including any agency of or any other entity under

===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====  
And the title is amended as follows:

Delete lines 21 - 60  
and insert:

revising the definition of the term "foreign country of concern"; defining the term "foreign source of concern"; prohibiting a governmental entity from entering into certain contracts with certain entities owned or partially owned by foreign sources of concern or affiliated with a foreign country of concern; prohibiting governmental entities from extending and renewing certain contracts beginning on a specified date; prohibiting governmental entities from accepting a bid on, a proposal for, or a reply to, or entering into, contracts involving information technology or providing access to an individual's personal identifying information unless a certain affidavit signed by an officer or representative is provided to



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the governmental entity; amending s. 288.816, F.S.; prohibiting certain activities encouraging affiliations with foreign countries of concern; requiring the Department of Commerce to publish and update certain information on its website; amending s. 288.8175, F.S.; deleting the Florida-China Institute from the list of linkage institutes; deleting an exemption for linkage institutes; prohibiting a linkage institute from entering into an agreement or participating in an activity with a foreign country of concern; amending s. 288.860, F.S.; requiring that certain agreements be terminated by a specified date; amending s. 496.404, F.S.; revising the definition of the term "foreign source of concern"; amending s. 692.201, F.S.; revising the definition of the term "foreign country of concern"; creating s. 692.21, F.S.; defining terms; prohibiting governmental entities and business entities with access to critical infrastructure facilities from entering into certain contracts with foreign sources of concern; requiring business entities to register with the department by a specified date; requiring the department to adopt registration forms; providing requirements for such forms; providing civil and criminal penalties; requiring certain business entities to provide a signed affidavit to the department attesting that the buyer or transferee of a critical infrastructure facility is not a foreign source of concern; prohibiting information technology from a foreign





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446 source of concern from being used in critical  
447 infrastructure facilities; requiring the department to  
448 adopt rules; creating s. 775.08255, F.S.; defining  
449 terms; providing for the reclassification of criminal  
450 penalties under certain circumstances; providing a  
451 mandatory minimum term of imprisonment; creating s.  
452 775.36, F.S.; defining terms; prohibiting enforcement  
453 of certain laws of a foreign government; providing  
454 criminal penalties; amending s. 316.0078,