

House Bill 1379

By: Representatives Gaines of the 120th, Panitch of the 51st, Carson of the 46th, Cox of the 28th, and Fleming of the 114th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to education, so as to
2 require semiannual reports from institutions of the University System of Georgia, units of the
3 Technical College System of Georgia, and local school systems and other public schools
4 regarding funding received from foreign sources; to provide requirements for such reports;
5 to provide for such reports to be made publicly available; to provide for definitions; to
6 provide for related matters; to provide for a short title; to provide for effective dates; to repeal
7 conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

9 **SECTION 1.**

10 This Act shall be known and may be cited as the "Foreign Funding Transparency and
11 Accountability Act."

12 **SECTION 2.**

13 Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to education, is amended in
14 Article 1 of Chapter 1, relating to general provisions relative to education, by adding a new
15 Code section to read as follows:

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16 "20-1-13.

17 (a) As used in this Code section, the term:

18 (1) 'Foreign country of concern' means a country whose government is designated as a
19 foreign adversary by the United States Secretary of Commerce pursuant to 15 C.F.R.
20 Section 791.4 in effect on January 1, 2026.

21 (2) 'Foreign entity of concern' means any organization, institution of higher education,
22 association, corporation, or other entity organized under the laws of, or having its
23 principal place of business in, a foreign country of concern, a subsidiary of any such
24 entity, or an organization designated by the United States Secretary of State as a foreign
25 terrorist organization pursuant to 8 U.S.C. Section 1189 on or before January 1, 2026.

26 (3) 'Foreign individual of concern' means any official of a foreign country of concern or
27 any individual who is domiciled in a foreign country of concern and who is not a citizen
28 or lawful permanent resident of the United States, or an individual who has been
29 convicted of violating 18 U.S.C. Section 2339A or 18 U.S.C. Section 2339B.

30 (4) 'Foreign source' means:

31 (A) A foreign government, including an agency of a foreign government;

32 (B) An organization, institution of higher education, association, corporation, or other
33 entity organized under the laws of, or having its principal place of business in, a foreign
34 country or a subsidiary of any such entity; and

35 (C) An individual acting on behalf of a foreign government or entity specified in
36 subparagraphs (A) and (B) of this paragraph.

37 (5) 'Foreign source of concern' means a foreign country of concern, a foreign entity of
38 concern, or a foreign individual of concern.

39 (6) 'Funding' means any gift, grant, donation, payment in exchange for services, capital
40 investment, salary, wage, compensation, fee, or other monetary exchange.

41 (7) 'Public education institution' means an institution of the University System of
42 Georgia, a unit of the Technical College System of Georgia, and a local school system
43 or other public school.

44 (b) Beginning in 2027, no later than January 31 and July 31 of each year, except as
45 provided in subsection (c) of this Code section, each public education institution shall
46 provide to the Attorney General and the Department of Accounts and Audits a report
47 detailing all funding received by the public education institution from a foreign source
48 during the most recent two calendar quarters. Such report shall include:

49 (1) The amount of funding received;

50 (2) The type of funding, whether a gift, grant, donation, payment in exchange for
51 services, capital investment, salary, wage, compensation, fee, or other monetary
52 exchange;

53 (3) A detailed description of the foreign source providing the funding, including the
54 name and address of such foreign source and the owner of such foreign source, if
55 applicable;

56 (4) A copy of any contract, agreement, or memorandum of understanding associated with
57 the funding;

58 (5) Details regarding the purpose of the funding and indicating whether the funding was
59 a one-time event or part of a series of funding events; and

60 (6) If the funding is from a foreign source of concern, details regarding:

61 (A) Any influence or control such source has over the curriculum, research, academic
62 affairs, or personnel decisions of such institution; and

63 (B) Steps taken to protect academic freedom, research integrity, and cybersecurity.

64 (c) Beginning in 2027, no later than January 31 and July 31 of each year, each public
65 education institution that has not received funding from a foreign source during the two
66 most recent calendar quarters shall provide a report to the Attorney General and the

67 Department of Accounts and Audits stating that such institution has not received funding
68 from a foreign source during the two most recent calendar quarters.

69 (d) The reports required by this Code section shall be made available on the website of the
70 Department of Accounts and Audits; provided, however, that personally identifiable
71 information, security information, and other information protected from disclosure by state
72 or federal law shall be redacted before such reports are made available.

73 (e) This Code section shall not require reporting of funding provided by an individual or
74 a family as payment for tuition or related fees for a student or students affiliated with or
75 attending a program, class, or course of study at an institution of the University System of
76 Georgia or a unit of the Technical College System of Georgia."

77 **SECTION 3.**

78 Said title is further amended in Part 2 of Article 2 of Chapter 3, relating to university system,
79 by repealing and reserving Code Section 20-3-84, relating to reporting on funding received
80 by university system from any foreign country, entity, or individual of concern.

81 **SECTION 4.**

82 (a) This Act shall become effective on July 1, 2026, except as otherwise provided in
83 subsection (b) of this section.

84 (b) Section 3 of this Act shall become effective on January 1, 2027.

85 **SECTION 5.**

86 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.