

**The Florida Senate**  
**HOUSE MESSAGE SUMMARY**

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Prepared By: The Professional Staff of the Committee on Health Policy

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BILL: CS/CS/SB 768, 1st Eng.

INTRODUCER: Judiciary Committee; Health Policy Committee; and Senator Calatayud

SUBJECT: Controlling Business Interests by Persons with Ties to Foreign Countries of Concern

DATE: April 29, 2025

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**I. Amendments Contained in Message:**

**House Amendment — 652203** (body with title)

**II. Summary of Amendments Contained in Message:**

**House Amendment — 652203**

Section 1 of the amendment substantially contains the contents of CS/CS/SB 766 (Burgess), which was not heard in its final committee of reference (Rules), to create a state-level framework for the registration of agents and organizations associated with foreign nations. Specifically, the bill requires individuals acting as agents of foreign countries of concern and foreign-supported political organizations to register with the Department of State's Division of Elections. Registrants must disclose specified information related to their identity, funding, affiliations, financial transactions, and political activities. All registrations must be updated at least every 90 days. The bill authorizes the Florida Elections Commission to enforce compliance via fines.

Section 2 of the amendment contains the substance SB 1538 (Collins) which was not heard in any Senate committee. Section 2 amends s. 287.138, F.S., to prohibit a governmental entity (broadly defined by s. 287.138(1)(d), F.S.), beginning October 15, 2025, from initiating or renewing a contract for any services or for the purchase of any computer, printer, or interoperable videoconferencing devices with:

- (1) Any company that is owned to any extent, directly or indirectly, by the government of a foreign country of concern. This prohibition also applies where the contracting entity has a subsidiary or parent company that is owned to any extent, directly or indirectly, by the government of a foreign country of concern. The subsidiary or parent company need not be involved directly in the contract for this prohibition to apply.
- (2) Any company that will supply the computers, printers, or interoperable videoconferencing devices through a third party in which the government of a foreign country of concern has any ownership interest, directly or indirectly.
- (3) Where the entity's principal place of business is located in a foreign country of concern.

Foreign countries of concern include 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 Nicolas Maduro, and the Syrian Arab Republic.

This amendment requires any entity that submits a bid, proposal, or reply for (1) a contract to provide goods or services to a governmental entity contract for services of any sort, (2) a contract for the purchase of any computer, printer, or interoperable videoconferencing devices, or (3) a contract that would provide access to an individual's personal identifying information to submit an affidavit that it does not meet the above criteria (concerning ownership by a government of, or location in a foreign country of concern.)

Section 3 of the amendment prohibits Florida's public health laboratories (located in Jacksonville, Miami, and Tampa), which provide provides clinical and environmental lab services to the 67 counties for the protection of public health, from using operational or research software used for genetic sequencing that is produced in or by a foreign country of concern, a state-owned enterprise of a foreign country of concern, or a company domiciled within a foreign country of concern. Adds Quatar.

Section 4 of the amendment contains the underlying bill, SB 768.

Section 5 of the amendment provides an effective date of July 1, 2025.