

AMENDMENT TO RULES COMMITTEE PRINT

119-1

OFFERED BY MR. SCOTT OF VIRGINIA

Page 1, strike line 1 and all that follows through
page 60, line 6 and insert the following:

1 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

2 This Act may be cited as the “DETERRENT Act
3 of 2025”.

4 SEC. 2. DISCLOSURES OF FOREIGN GIFTS AND CONTRACTS.

5 Section 117 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20
6 U.S.C. 1011f) is amended to read as follows:

**7 “SEC. 117. DISCLOSURES OF FOREIGN GIFTS AND CON-
8 TRACTS.**

9 “(a) DISCLOSURE REPORTS.—

10 “(1) AGGREGATE GIFT AND CONTRACT DISCLO-
11 SURES.—An institution shall file a disclosure report
12 described in subsection (b) with the Secretary not
13 later than July 31 of the calendar year immediately
14 following any calendar year in which—

15 “(A) the institution receives a gift from, or
16 enters into a contract with, a foreign source,
17 the value of which is \$100,000 or more, consid-
18 ered alone or in combination with all other gifts

1 from, or contracts with, that foreign source
2 within the calendar year; or

3 “(B) the institution receives a gift from, or
4 enters into a contract with, a foreign source,
5 the value of which totals \$250,000 or more,
6 considered alone or in combination with all
7 other gifts from, or contracts with, that foreign
8 source over the previous 3 calendar years.

9 “(2) FOREIGN SOURCE OWNERSHIP OR CON-
10 TROL DISCLOSURES.—In the case of an institution
11 that is substantially owned or controlled (as de-
12 scribed in section 668.174(c)(3) of title 34, Code of
13 Federal Regulations (or successor regulations)) by a
14 foreign source, the institution shall file a disclosure
15 report described in subsection (b) with the Secretary
16 not later than July 31 of every year.

17 “(b) CONTENTS OF REPORT.—Each report to the
18 Secretary required under subsection (a) shall contain the
19 following:

20 “(1)(A) In the case of gifts or contracts de-
21 scribed in subsection (a)(1)—

22 “(i) for gifts received from, or contracts
23 entered into with, a foreign government, the ag-
24 gregate amount of such gifts and contracts re-

1 ceived from or entered into with such foreign
2 government;

3 “(ii) for gifts received from, or contracts
4 entered into with, a foreign source other than
5 a foreign government, the aggregate dollar
6 amount of such gifts and contracts attributable
7 to a particular country and the legal or formal
8 name of the foreign source; and

9 “(iii) the intended purpose of such gift or
10 contract, as provided to the institution by such
11 foreign source, or if no such purpose is provided
12 by such purpose is provided by such source, the
13 intended use of such gift or contract, as pro-
14 vided by the institution.

15 “(B) For purposes of this paragraph, the coun-
16 try to which a gift is attributable is—

17 “(i) the country of citizenship or, if un-
18 known, the principal residence, for a foreign
19 source who is a natural person; or

20 “(ii) the country of incorporation or, if un-
21 known, the principal place of business, for a
22 foreign source that is a legal entity.

23 “(2) In the case of an institution required to
24 file a report under subsection (a)(2)—

1 “(A) for gifts received from, or contracts
2 entered into with, a foreign source, without re-
3 gard to the value of such gift or contract, the
4 information described in paragraph (1)(A);

5 “(B) the identity of the foreign source that
6 owns or controls the institution;

7 “(C) the date on which the foreign source
8 assumed ownership or control; and

9 “(D) any changes in program or structure
10 resulting from such ownership or control.

11 “(3) An assurance that the institution will
12 maintain a true copy of each gift or contract agree-
13 ment subject to the disclosure requirements under
14 this section, until the latest of—

15 “(A) the date that is 4 years after the date
16 of the agreement;

17 “(B) the date on which the agreement ter-
18 minates; or

19 “(C) the last day of any period of which
20 applicable State public record law requires a
21 true copy of such agreement to be maintained.

22 “(4) An assurance that the institution will—

23 “(A) produce true copies of gift and con-
24 tract agreements subject to the disclosure re-
25 quirements under this section upon request of

1 the Secretary during a compliance audit or
2 other institutional investigation; and

3 “(B) ensure that all contracts from the
4 foreign source are translated into English, as
5 applicable.

6 “(c) ADDITIONAL DISCLOSURES FOR RESTRICTED
7 AND CONDITIONAL GIFTS AND CONTRACTS.—Notwith-
8 standing subsection (b), whenever any institution receives
9 a restricted or conditional gift or contract from a foreign
10 source, the institution shall disclose the following to the
11 Secretary, translated into English:

12 “(1) For such gifts received from, or contracts
13 entered into with, a foreign source other than a for-
14 eign government, the amount, the date, and a de-
15 scription of such conditions or restrictions. The re-
16 port shall also disclose the country of citizenship, or
17 if unknown, the principal residence for a foreign
18 source which is a natural person, and the country of
19 incorporation, or if unknown, the principal place of
20 business for a foreign source which is a legal entity.

21 “(2) For gifts received from, or contracts en-
22 tered into with, a foreign government, the amount,
23 the date, a description of such conditions or restric-
24 tions, and the name of the foreign government.

1 “(d) DATABASE REQUIREMENT.—Beginning not
2 later than 30 days before the July 31 immediately fol-
3 lowing the date of enactment of the DETERRENT Act
4 of 2025, the Secretary shall—

5 “(1) establish and maintain a searchable data-
6 base on a website of the Department, under which
7 each report submitted under this section—

8 “(A) is, not later than 60 days after the
9 date of the submission of such report, made
10 publicly available (in electronic and
11 downloadable format);

12 “(B) can be identified and compared to
13 other such reports; and

14 “(C) is searchable and sortable by—

15 “(i) the date the institution filed such
16 report;

17 “(ii) the date on which the institution
18 received the gift, or entered into the con-
19 tract, which is the subject of the report;
20 and

21 “(iii) the attributable country of such
22 gift or contract as described in subsection
23 (b)(1)(B); and

24 “(2) indicate, as part of the public record of a
25 report included in such database, whether the report

1 was submitted by the institution with respect to a
2 gift received from, or a contract entered into with—

3 “(A) a foreign source that is a foreign gov-
4 ernment; or

5 “(B) a foreign source that is not a foreign
6 government.

7 “(e) RELATION TO OTHER REPORTING REQUIRE-
8 MENTS.—

9 “(1) STATE REQUIREMENTS.—If an institution
10 that is required to file a disclosure report under sub-
11 section (a) is in a State that has enacted require-
12 ments for public disclosure of gifts from, or con-
13 tracts with, a foreign source that includes all infor-
14 mation required under this section for the same or
15 an equivalent time period, the institution may file
16 with the Secretary a copy of the disclosure report
17 filed with the State in lieu of the report required
18 under such subsection. The State in which the insti-
19 tution is located shall provide the Secretary such as-
20 surances as the Secretary may require to establish
21 that the institution has met the requirements for
22 public disclosure under State law if the State report
23 is filed.

24 “(2) USE OF OTHER FEDERAL REPORTS.—If an
25 institution receives a gift from, or enters into a con-

1 tract with, a foreign source, where any other depart-
2 ment, agency, or bureau of the executive branch re-
3 quires a report containing all the information re-
4 quired under this section for the same or an equiva-
5 lent time period, a copy of the report may be filed
6 with the Secretary in lieu of a report required under
7 subsection (a).

8 “(f) MODIFICATION OF REPORTS.—The Secretary
9 shall incorporate a process permitting institutions to re-
10 vise and update previously filed disclosure reports under
11 this section to ensure accuracy, compliance, and ability to
12 cure.

13 “(g) SANCTIONS FOR NONCOMPLIANCE.—

14 “(1) IN GENERAL.—As a sanction for non-
15 compliance with the requirements under this section,
16 the Secretary may impose a fine on an institution
17 that in any year knowingly or willfully violates this
18 section, that is—

19 “(A) in the case of a failure to disclose a
20 gift or contract with a foreign source as re-
21 quired under this section, or to comply with the
22 requirements of subparagraphs (A) and (B) of
23 subsection (b)(4) pursuant to the assurances
24 made under such subsection, in an amount that
25 is not less than \$250 but not more than 50 per-

1 cent of the amount of the gift or contract with
2 the foreign source; or

3 “(B) in the case of any violation of the re-
4 quirements of subsection (a)(2), in an amount
5 that is not more than 25 percent of the total
6 amount of funding received by the institution
7 under this Act (other than funds received under
8 title IV of this Act).

9 “(2) REPEATED FAILURES.—

10 “(A) KNOWING AND WILLFUL FAIL-
11 URES.—In addition to a fine for a violation in
12 any year under paragraph (1), the Secretary
13 may impose a fine on an institution that know-
14 ingly or willfully violates this section for 3 con-
15 secutive years, that is—

16 “(i) in the case of a failure to disclose
17 a gift or contract with a foreign source as
18 required under this section or to comply
19 with the requirements of subparagraphs
20 (A) and (B) of subsection (b)(4) pursuant
21 to the assurances made under such sub-
22 section, in an amount that is not less than
23 \$100,000 but not more than the amount of
24 the gift or contract with the foreign source;
25 or

1 “(ii) in the case of any violation of the
2 requirements of subsection (a)(2), in an
3 amount that is not more than 25 percent
4 of the total amount of funding received by
5 the institution under this Act (other than
6 funds received under title IV of this Act).

7 “(B) ADMINISTRATIVE FAILURES.—The
8 Secretary may impose a fine on an institution
9 that fails to comply with the requirements of
10 this section due to administrative errors for 3
11 consecutive years, in an amount that is not less
12 than \$250 but not more than 50 percent of the
13 amount of the gift or contract with the foreign
14 source.

15 “(C) COMPLIANCE PLAN REQUIREMENT.—
16 If an institution fails to file a disclosure report
17 for a receipt of a gift from or contract with a
18 foreign source for 2 consecutive years, the Sec-
19 retary may require the institution to submit a
20 compliance plan.

21 “(h) COMPLIANCE OFFICER.—Any institution that is
22 required to report a gift or contract under this section
23 shall designate and maintain a compliance officer who—

24 “(1) shall be a current employee (including
25 such an employee with another job title or duties

1 other than the duties described in paragraph (2)) or
2 legally authorized agent of such institution; and

3 “(2) shall be responsible, on behalf of the insti-
4 tution, for compliance with the foreign gift reporting
5 requirement under this section.

6 “(i) SINGLE POINT OF CONTACT.—

7 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall appoint
8 and maintain a single point of contact to—

9 “(A) receive and respond to inquiries and
10 requests for technical assistance from institu-
11 tions of higher education regarding compliance
12 with the requirements of this section; and

13 “(B) coordinate and implement technical
14 improvements to the database described in sub-
15 section (d), including—

16 “(i) improving upload functionality by
17 allowing for batch reporting, including by
18 allowing institutions to upload to the data-
19 base one file with all required information;

20 “(ii) publishing and maintaining, on
21 an annual basis, a database user guide
22 that includes information on how to edit
23 an entry and how to report errors;

24 “(iii) creating a user group (to which
25 chapter 10 of title 5, United States Code,

1 shall not apply) to discuss possible data-
2 base improvements, which shall—

3 “(I) include at least—

4 “(aa) 3 members rep-
5 resenting public institutions with
6 high or very high levels of re-
7 search activity (as defined by the
8 National Center for Education
9 Statistics);

10 “(bb) 2 members rep-
11 resenting private, nonprofit insti-
12 tutions with high or very high
13 levels of research activity (as so
14 defined);

15 “(cc) 2 members rep-
16 resenting proprietary institutions
17 of higher education (as defined in
18 section 102(b)); and

19 “(dd) 2 members rep-
20 resenting area career and tech-
21 nical education schools (as de-
22 fined in subparagraph (C) or (D)
23 of section 3(3) of the Carl D.
24 Perkins Career and Technical

1 Education Act of 2006 (20
2 U.S.C. 2302(3)); and

3 “(II) meet at least twice a year
4 with officials from the Department to
5 discuss possible database improve-
6 ments; and

7 “(iv) publishing, on a publicly avail-
8 able website—

9 “(I) following each meeting de-
10 scribed in clause (iii)(II), rec-
11 ommended database improvements;
12 and

13 “(II) with respect to each rec-
14 ommended improvement described in
15 subclause (I)—

16 “(aa) the decision of the De-
17 partment as to whether such rec-
18 ommended improvement will be
19 implemented; and

20 “(bb) the rationale for such
21 decision.

22 “(2) PROHIBITION.—An outside person may
23 not serve as the single point-of-contact required
24 under paragraph (1).

1 “(3) CONFLICTS OF INTEREST.—The Secretary
2 shall establish a policy to ensure that any person
3 serving as the single point-of-contact under para-
4 graph (1) is free from conflicts of interest.

5 “(j) TREATMENT OF CERTAIN PAYMENTS AND
6 GIFTS.—

7 “(1) EXCLUSIONS.—The following shall not be
8 considered a gift from, or contract with, a foreign
9 source under this section:

10 “(A) Any payment of one or more elements
11 of a student’s cost of attendance (as defined in
12 section 472) to an institution by, or scholarship
13 from, a foreign source who is a natural person,
14 acting in their individual capacity and not as an
15 agent for, at the request or direction of, or on
16 behalf of, any person or entity (except the stu-
17 dent), made on behalf of students that is not
18 made under contract with such foreign source,
19 except for the agreement between the institu-
20 tion and such student covering one or more ele-
21 ments of such student’s cost of attendance.

22 “(B) Assignment or license of registered
23 industrial and intellectual property rights, such
24 as patents, utility models, trademarks, or copy-
25 rights, or technical assistance, that are not

1 identified as being associated with a national
2 security risk or concern.

3 “(C) Any payment from a foreign source
4 that is solely for the purpose of conducting one
5 or more clinical trials.

6 “(2) INCLUSIONS.—Any gift to, or contract
7 with, an entity or organization, such as a research
8 foundation, that operates substantially for the ben-
9 efit or under the auspices of an institution shall be
10 considered a gift to, or contract with, such institu-
11 tion.

12 “(k) RESTRICTIONS ON DATA ACCESS.—None of the
13 information submitted to or maintained by the Depart-
14 ment of Education pursuant to this section may be made
15 available to an outside person unless—

16 “(1) the sharing of such information with such
17 person is specifically authorized or required by this
18 section; or

19 “(2) such information is required to be made
20 publicly available under this section.

21 “(l) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

22 “(1) the term ‘clinical trial’ means a research
23 study in which one or more human subjects are pro-
24 spectively assigned to one or more interventions to

1 evaluate the effects of those interventions on health-
2 related biomedical or behavioral outcomes;

3 “(2) the term ‘contract’—

4 “(A) means any—

5 “(i) agreement for the acquisition by
6 purchase, lease, or barter of property or
7 services by the foreign source, for the di-
8 rect benefit or use of either of the parties,
9 except as provided in subparagraph (B); or

10 “(ii) affiliation, agreement, or similar
11 transaction with a foreign source that is
12 based on the use or exchange of an institu-
13 tion’s name, likeness, time, services, or re-
14 sources, except as provided in subpara-
15 graph (B); and

16 “(B) does not include any agreement made
17 by an institution located in the United States
18 for the acquisition, by purchase, lease, or bar-
19 ter, of property or services from a foreign
20 source;

21 “(3) the term ‘foreign source’ means—

22 “(A) a foreign government, including an
23 agency of a foreign government;

1 “(B) a legal entity, governmental or other-
2 wise, created under the laws of a foreign state
3 or states;

4 “(C) an individual who is not a citizen or
5 a national of the United States or a trust terri-
6 tory or protectorate thereof; and

7 “(D) an agent, including a subsidiary or
8 affiliate of a foreign legal entity, acting on be-
9 half of a foreign source;

10 “(4) the term ‘gift’—

11 “(A) means any gift of money, property,
12 resources, staff, or services; and

13 “(B) does not include anything described
14 in section 487(e)(2)(B)(ii);

15 “(5) the term ‘institution’ means an institution
16 of higher education, as defined in section 102, or, if
17 a multicampus institution, any single campus of
18 such institution, in any State;

19 “(6) the term ‘outside person’—

20 “(A) means any person who is not a direct
21 employee of the Department of Education; and

22 “(B) includes any person who is a political
23 appointee, special government employee, or em-
24 ployee detailed from any agency outside the De-
25 partment of Education; and

1 “(7) the term ‘restricted or conditional gift or
2 contract’ means any endowment, gift, grant, con-
3 tract, award, present, or property of any kind that
4 includes provisions regarding—

5 “(A) the employment, assignment, or ter-
6 mination of faculty;

7 “(B) the establishment of departments,
8 centers, institutes, instructional programs, re-
9 search or lecture programs, or faculty positions;

10 “(C) the selection or admission of stu-
11 dents; or

12 “(D) the award of grants, loans, scholar-
13 ships, fellowships, or other forms of financial
14 aid restricted to students of a specified country,
15 religion, sex, ethnic origin, or political opin-
16 ion.”.

17 **SEC. 3. REGULATIONS.**

18 (a) REGULATIONS.—Not later than 1 year after the
19 date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Education
20 shall begin the negotiated rulemaking process under sec-
21 tion 492 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.
22 1098a) to carry out the amendment made by section 2.

23 (b) ISSUES.—Regulations issued pursuant to sub-
24 section (a) to carry out the amendment made by section
25 2 shall, at a minimum, address the following issues:

1 (1) Instructions on reporting structured gifts
2 and contracts.

3 (2) The inclusion in institutional reports of
4 gifts received from, and contracts entered into with,
5 foreign sources by entities and organizations, such
6 as research foundations, that operate substantially
7 for the benefit or under the auspices of the institu-
8 tion.

9 (3) Procedures to protect confidential or propri-
10 etary information included in gifts and contracts.

11 (4) The alignment of such regulations with the
12 reporting and disclosure of foreign gifts or contracts
13 required by Federal agencies other than the Depart-
14 ment of Education, including with respect to—

15 (A) the CHIPS Act of 2022 (Division A of
16 Public Law 117–167; 15 U.S.C. 4651 note);

17 (B) the Research and Development, Com-
18 petition, and Innovation Act (Division B of
19 Public Law 117–167; 42 U.S.C. 18901 note);
20 and

21 (C) any guidance released by the White
22 House Office of Science and Technology Policy,
23 including the Guidance for Implementing Na-
24 tional Security Presidential Memorandum 33
25 (NSPM–33) on National Security Strategy for

1 United States Government-supported Research
2 and Development published by the Sub-
3 committee on Research Security and the Joint
4 Committee on the Research Environment in
5 January 2022.

6 (5) The treatment of foreign gifts or contracts
7 involving research or technologies identified as being
8 associated with a national security risk or concern.

9 (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by
10 section 2 shall take effect on the date on which the regula-
11 tions issued under subsection (a) take effect.

