2025 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 686 (Substitute for House Bill No. 511 by Representative Owen)

BY REPRESENTATIVES OWEN, AMEDEE, BAYHAM, BILLINGS, DICKERSON, EDMONSTON, FIRMENT, HORTON, SCHAMERHORN, SPELL, THOMPSON, VENTRELLA, AND WILDER

1	AN ACT
2	To amend and reenact R.S. 24:57(3) and to enact R.S. 24:51(9), 53(K), 53.1, and 53.2, R.S.
3	33:9664(H), and R.S. 49:74(I), relative to lobbying on behalf of foreign adversaries;
4	to provide for the definition of a foreign adversary; to provide for additional
5	lobbying disclosure requirements for a foreign adversary; to provide for penalties;
6	to provide for rules and regulations; to provide for an electronic database
7	administered by the board of ethics; to provide relative to lobbying on behalf of
8	designated foreign corporations; to provide for data sharing and public access of
9	records; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.
10	Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:
11	Section 1. R.S. 24:57(3) is hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 24:51(9), 53(K),
12	53.1, and 53.2 are hereby enacted to read as follows:
13	§51. Definitions
14	When used in this Part:
15	* * *
16	(9) "Foreign adversary" means:
17	(a) An individual, corporation, or government identified as a foreign
18	adversary in 15 CFR Part 791.4, as revised, and identified in the database
19	maintained by the United States Department of the Treasury, office of foreign assets
20	control.
21	(b) "Foreign adversary" shall not include any entity that is the subject of, or
22	covered by, a qualified divestiture pursuant to the Protecting Americans from
23	Foreign Adversary Controlled Applications Act.

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1	(c) "Foreign adversary" shall not include any entity where that entity, or any
2	corporate parent or affiliate of that entity, holds an active registration on the United
3	States General Services Administration's (GSA) SAM.gov federal procurement
4	system.
5	* * *
6	§53. Registration of lobbyists with the board; compilation of information
7	* * *
8	K. Any person who registers pursuant to this Part and who engages in
9	lobbying on behalf of a foreign adversary, as defined in R.S. 24:51 shall also register
10	as provided in R.S. 24:53.1.
11	§53.1. Foreign adversaries; disclosure
12	A. Any person who lobbies on behalf of a foreign adversary as defined in
13	R.S. 24:51(9) shall, before engaging in lobbying activity in Louisiana on behalf of
14	a foreign adversary, file a disclosure with the board on a form prescribed by the
15	board, which shall include, at a minimum, the following:
16	(1) The name and office address of the person.
17	(2) The name of the foreign adversary represented by the person.
18	(3) A description of the business activity of the foreign adversary represented
19	by the person, if applicable.
20	(4) An identification of the matters on which the person expects to conduct
21	lobbying on behalf of the foreign adversary.
22	B. The Board of Ethics shall post on its website on the internet a list of all
23	persons who have failed to file or failed to timely file a disclosure pursuant to this
24	Section.
25	C. The board shall provide information about disclosures filed pursuant to
26	this Section through a web portal maintained on the board's website. The portal shall
27	contain the information about the registrant and the registrant's activities within the
28	state. The board shall publish each disclosure filed pursuant to this Section on the
29	board's website.

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agents of foreign adversaries that operate in multiple sta E. The board may promulgate rules pursuant to the E. The board may promulgate rules pursuant to the Act as necessary to carry out the provisions of this Section E. Any change in information previously submitt to this Section shall be reported to the board through within ten days following the change. S53.2 Designated foreign corporations; disclosure A. Any person who lobbics on behalf of a foreign whose headquarters or principal place of business is loc identified in 15 CFR Part 791.4, as revised from time to identified in 15 CFR Part 791.4, as revi	om government officials in
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29 <u>state. The board shall publish each disclosure filed purs</u>	suant to this Section on the
30 <u>board's website.</u>	

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1	D. The board may send to and receive data from government officials in
2	other states in order to increase the transparency and registration compliance of
3	lobbyists of foreign corporations that operate in multiple states.
4	E. The board may promulgate rules pursuant to the Administrative Procedure
5	Act as necessary to carry out the provisions of this Section.
6	F. Any change in information previously submitted in a disclosure pursuant
7	to this Section shall be reported to the board through a supplemental disclosure
8	within ten days following the change.
9	* * *
10	§57. Administration
11	The board, in performance of its duties under this Part, shall:
12	* * *
13	(3)(a) Establish and maintain access to a searchable electronic database
14	available to the public via the Internet.
15	(b) The database shall contain the reports, registration, and other information
16	required to be filed pursuant to this Part.
17	* * *
18	Section 2. R.S. 33:9664(H) is hereby enacted to read as follows:
19	§9664. Registration of lobbyists with the ethics board; compilation of information
20	* * *
21	H. Any person who registers pursuant to this Chapter and who engages in
22	lobbying on behalf of a foreign adversary as defined in R.S. 24:51 shall also register
23	as provided in R.S. 24:53.1.
24	Section 3. R.S. 49:74(I) is hereby enacted to read as follows:
25	§74. Registration of lobbyists with the ethics board; compilation of information
26	* * *
27	I. Any person who registers pursuant to this Part and who engages in
28	lobbying on behalf of a foreign adversary as defined in R.S. 24:51 shall also register
29	as provided in R.S. 24:53.1.

Section 4. Any person who is engaged in lobbying on behalf of a foreign adversary on the effective date of this Act shall file a disclosure pursuant to this Act no later than thirty days following the effective date of this Act.

Section 5. This Act shall become effective on December 1, 2025.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

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APPROVED: _____