

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.

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.

* * *

6 §53. Registration of lobbyists with the board; compilation of information

* * *

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.

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 agents of foreign adversaries 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 §53.2 Designated foreign corporations; disclosure

10 A. Any person who lobbies on behalf of a foreign corporation or any entity
 11 whose headquarters or principal place of business is located in a nation or country
 12 identified in 15 CFR Part 791.4, as revised from time to time, shall disclose at a
 13 minimum, the following information:

14 (1)The name of the foreign corporation represented by the person.

15 (2)The nation under whose laws the corporation is incorporated or organized.

16 (3)Where the corporation has its principal place of business.

17 (4)Where the corporation is primarily located if not in the United States
 18 which shall include the permanent mailing office address of the foreign corporation.

19 (5) A description of the business activity of the foreign corporation
 20 represented by the person.

21 (6) An identification of the matters on which the person expects to conduct
 22 lobbying business on behalf of the foreign corporation.

23 B. The Board of Ethics shall post on its website on the internet a list of all
 24 persons who have failed to file or failed to timely file a disclosure pursuant to this
 25 Section.

26 C. The board shall provide information about disclosures filed pursuant to
 27 this Section through a web portal maintained on the board's website. The portal shall
 28 contain the information about the registrant and the registrant's activities within the
 29 state. The board shall publish each disclosure filed pursuant to this Section on the
 30 board's website.

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.

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

4 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

APPROVED: _____