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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-FOURTH SESSION

H. F. No. 3340

05/18/2025

Authored by Quam

The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on State Government Finance and Policy

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to campaign finance; prohibiting foreign nationals from contributing to
1.3 or providing independent expenditures for ballot questions; amending Minnesota
1.4 Statutes 2024, section 10A.01, by adding subdivisions; proposing coding for new
1.5 law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 10A.

1.6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.7 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 10A.01, is amended by adding a subdivision
1.8 to read:

1.9 Subd. 17e. Foreign national. "Foreign national" means:

1.10 (1) an individual who is not a citizen or lawful permanent resident of the United States;

1.11 (2) a government, political subdivision, or municipality of a foreign country;

1.12 (3) a foreign political party;

1.13 (4) any entity, including but not limited to a partnership, association, corporation,
1.14 organization, or other combination of persons, that is organized under the laws of or has its
1.15 principal place of business in a foreign country; or

1.16 (5) any entity in the United States, including but not limited to a partnership, association,
1.17 corporation, or organization, that is wholly or majority owned by any foreign national,
1.18 unless:

1.19 (i) any contribution or expenditure the entity makes derives entirely from funds generated
1.20 by the entity's United States operations; and

2.1 (ii) all decisions concerning the contribution or expenditure, except for setting overall
2.2 budget amounts, are made by individuals who are United States citizens or permanent
2.3 residents.

2.4 Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 10A.01, is amended by adding a subdivision to
2.5 read:

2.6 Subd. 32b. **Preliminary activity.** "Preliminary activity" includes but is not limited to
2.7 participating in focus groups, making telephone calls, traveling, conducting polls, and
2.8 drafting ballot question language.

2.9 Sec. 3. **[10A.151] BALLOT QUESTION FUNDING; FOREIGN NATIONAL**
2.10 **PROHIBITION.**

2.11 Subdivision 1. **General prohibition.** A foreign national shall not, directly or indirectly:

2.12 (1) make a donation, contribution, or expenditure in support or opposition of a ballot
2.13 question;

2.14 (2) solicit another person to make a donation, contribution, or expenditure to influence
2.15 a ballot question; or

2.16 (3) direct, dictate, control, or participate in another person's decision to influence a ballot
2.17 question.

2.18 Subd. 2. **Ballot question political committees.** (a) Upon registering a ballot question
2.19 political committee under section 10A.14, the treasurer shall file an accompanying
2.20 certification that no preliminary activity was directly or indirectly funded by a foreign
2.21 national. After a ballot question political committee has been registered, the committee shall
2.22 not knowingly or willfully receive, solicit, or accept contributions or expenditures that are
2.23 directly or indirectly funded by a foreign national. A ballot question political committee
2.24 shall affirm in its report that it has not knowingly or willfully received, solicited, or accepted
2.25 contributions or expenditures from a foreign national.

2.26 (b) Upon a ballot question political committee's receipt of a contribution, the treasurer
2.27 shall obtain from the donor an affirmation that the donor is not a foreign national and has
2.28 not knowingly or willfully accepted funds aggregating in excess of \$100,000 from a foreign
2.29 national during the four years immediately preceding the date the contribution was made.
2.30 A ballot question political committee that receives a contribution or makes expenditures
2.31 shall keep records of any contribution received or expenditure made and retain those records
2.32 for six years following the date the contribution was received or the expenditure was made.

3.1 The treasurer of a ballot question political committee shall affirm in its report that the donor
3.2 associated with each contribution is not a foreign national and has not knowingly or willfully
3.3 received, solicited, or accepted, whether directly or indirectly, contributions or expenditures
3.4 aggregating in excess of \$100,000 from a foreign national during the four years immediately
3.5 preceding the date the contribution was made.

3.6 Subd. 3. **Independent expenditures.** Any person who makes an independent expenditure
3.7 in support or opposition of a ballot question shall keep records of any contribution or
3.8 independent expenditure and retain those records for six years following the date the
3.9 contribution or expenditure was made. Within 48 hours of making an independent expenditure
3.10 supporting or opposing a ballot question, the person or entity making the expenditure shall:

3.11 (1) certify to the registry that the person or entity has not knowingly or willfully accepted
3.12 funds aggregating in excess of \$100,000 from a foreign national for four years immediately
3.13 preceding the date the expenditure was made, and that it will not do so through the remainder
3.14 of the calendar year in which the ballot question will appear on the ballot; and

3.15 (2) affirm in the person's or entity's report that the person or entity has not knowingly
3.16 or willfully accepted funds aggregating in excess of \$100,000 from a foreign national during
3.17 the four years immediately preceding the date the expenditure was made.

3.18 Subd. 4. **Presumption of indirect funding.** Any determination that an entity required
3.19 to file one or more certifications under subdivision 1 or 2 has accepted funds aggregating
3.20 in excess of \$100,000 from one or more foreign nationals during the four years immediately
3.21 preceding the date the contribution or independent expenditure at issue was made shall
3.22 create a presumption that the person or ballot question political committee has violated this
3.23 section.

3.24 Sec. 4. **REVISOR INSTRUCTION.**

3.25 The revisor of statutes shall renumber Minnesota Statutes, section 10A.01, subdivision
3.26 17c as subdivision 17e; subdivision 17d as subdivision 17f; and subdivision 32a as
3.27 subdivision 32c.