

**House File 575 - Introduced**

HOUSE FILE 575  
BY COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION

(SUCCESSOR TO HSB 54)

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act requiring reporting by regents institutions of funding  
2 from certain foreign sources and including effective date  
3 provisions.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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1 Section 1. SHORT TITLE. This Act shall be known and may be  
2 cited as the "Combatting Foreign Funding of Higher Education  
3 Act".

4 Sec. 2. NEW SECTION. **261K.1 Definitions.**

5 1. "Contract" means any agreement, pledge, or memorandum of  
6 understanding for the acquisition by purchase, lease, or barter  
7 of property or services by a foreign source for the direct  
8 benefit or use of either of the parties to the agreement.

9 2. "Foreign source" means any of the following:

10 a. A foreign government, including an agency of a foreign  
11 government.

12 b. A legal entity, governmental or otherwise, created solely  
13 under the laws of a foreign government.

14 c. An individual who is not a citizen or a national of the  
15 United States or a territory or protectorate thereof.

16 d. An agent, including a subsidiary or affiliate of a foreign  
17 legal entity, acting on behalf of a foreign source.

18 3. "Public institution of higher education" means an  
19 institution of higher learning governed by the state board of  
20 regents.

21 4. "Reportable funding" means any contract, gift, grant,  
22 endowment, award, or donation, payment in exchange for services,  
23 capital investment, salary, wage, compensation, fee, or other  
24 monetary exchange, including any pledge, promise, agreement, or  
25 expressed intention by a foreign source to provide funding which  
26 exceeds fifty thousand dollars in value or is expected to exceed  
27 fifty thousand dollars in value over the projected length of  
28 the funding relationship between the public institution of higher  
29 learning and the foreign source.

30 Sec. 3. NEW SECTION. **261K.2 Annual report on foreign  
31 funding.**

32 Annually by December 31, each public institution of higher  
33 education shall prepare a report that includes all of the  
34 following information:

35 1. The amount of reportable funding received by the

1 institution during the previous fiscal year.

2 2. A description of the type of reportable funding received  
3 and the purpose thereof, including identification of the contract  
4 involved in the funding.

5 3. A detailed description of the foreign source providing the  
6 reportable funding, including the name and address of the entity  
7 or individual providing the funding.

8 Sec. 4. NEW SECTION. **261K.3 Procedures for report.**

9 1. Annually by January 15, each public institution of higher  
10 education shall post the report required by section 261K.2 on the  
11 institution's internet site in an easily accessible format and  
12 provide the report to the governor and the general assembly.

13 2. Each public institution of higher education shall  
14 regularly update the report posted on the institution's internet  
15 site.

16 3. A report required by section 261K.2 and any updates to the  
17 report are public records for the purposes of chapter 22.

18 Sec. 5. NEW SECTION. **261K.4 Enforcement.**

19 The attorney general may bring an action against a public  
20 institution of higher education for a writ of mandamus to compel  
21 the institution to comply with this chapter.

22 Sec. 6. NEW SECTION. **261K.5 Exception.**

23 This chapter does not require reporting of payments made  
24 by a natural person who would otherwise qualify as a foreign  
25 source for tuition or related fees to support an individual  
26 matriculating as a student at a public institution of higher  
27 education.

28 Sec. 7. **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This Act takes effect January 1,  
29 2026.

30 **EXPLANATION**

31 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with  
32 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

33 This bill requires each regents institution to prepare  
34 a report annually by December 31 that includes specified  
35 information on certain funding received from foreign sources, as

1 defined in the bill. This information includes the amount, type,  
2 and purposes of the funding and a description of the foreign  
3 source.

4 The bill requires each institution to post the report required  
5 on the institution's internet site, provide the report to  
6 the governor and the general assembly, and update the report  
7 regularly. The report and updates are public records.

8 The bill authorizes the attorney general to bring an action  
9 against a regents institution for a writ of mandamus to compel  
10 the institution to comply with the bill.

11 The bill does not require reporting of payments made by  
12 a natural person who would otherwise qualify as a foreign  
13 source for tuition or related fees to support an individual  
14 matriculating as a student at a regents institution.

15 The bill takes effect January 1, 2026.

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