

House Study Bill 54 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE _____
BY (PROPOSED COMMITTEE ON HIGHER
EDUCATION BILL BY CHAIRPERSON
COLLINS)

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:

unofficial

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 for the acquisition by
6 purchase, lease, or barter of property or services by a foreign
7 source for the direct benefit or use of either of the parties to
8 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 whether the funding reported
4 is part of an ongoing relationship with the foreign source.

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 4. A copy of any contract, agreement, pledge, or memorandum
9 of understanding associated with the reportable funding.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

30 Sec. 7. **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This Act takes effect January 1,
31 2026.

32 **EXPLANATION**

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

35 This bill requires each regents institution to prepare

1 a report annually by December 31 that includes specified
2 information on certain funding received from foreign sources, as
3 defined in the bill. This information includes the amount, type,
4 and purposes of the funding; a description of the foreign source;
5 and a copy of any contract or similar document associated with
6 the funding.

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

11 The bill authorizes the attorney general to bring an action
12 against a regents institution for a writ of mandamus to compel
13 the institution to comply with the bill.

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

18 The bill takes effect January 1, 2026.