

.....
(Original Signature of Member)

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. _____

To prohibit the use of United States embassies or consulates in raising
funds for foreign political parties or candidates.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas introduced the following bill; which was referred to
the Committee on _____

A BILL

To prohibit the use of United States embassies or consulates
in raising funds for foreign political parties or candidates.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “No Foreign Fund-
5 raising at United States Embassies Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress makes the following findings:

8 (1) The Department of State’s mission is to
9 protect and promote security, prosperity, and demo-

1 cratic values, not to pursue the interests of any po-
2 litical party in the United States or abroad.

3 (2) Meeting with and building relationships
4 with a range of political parties in foreign countries
5 are appropriate and important functions consistent
6 with the duties of any United States Ambassador or
7 representative of the United States Government
8 abroad.

9 (3) It is the longstanding and bipartisan prac-
10 tice of the United States to encourage the rule of
11 law and free speech abroad, without regard for polit-
12 ical party or affiliation.

13 (4) The use of United States embassy or con-
14 sulate grounds, or the grounds of any other United
15 States diplomatic post, to raise funds for any foreign
16 political party or candidate in a foreign democratic
17 electoral process is inappropriate and distinct from
18 longstanding Department of State efforts to stand
19 against corruption and advance democratic institu-
20 tions and values around the world.

21 **SEC. 3. PROHIBITION ON HOSTING OF FOREIGN PARTY PO-**
22 **LITICAL EVENTS AT UNITED STATES EMBAS-**
23 **SIES.**

24 (a) STATEMENT OF POLICY.—It is the policy of the
25 United States to maintain strict political neutrality in the

1 internal electoral processes of foreign countries, and to en-
2 sure that diplomatic resources, including embassies, con-
3 sulates, and other posts, are not used to confer financial
4 or electoral advantage to any foreign political party or can-
5 didate.

6 (b) IN GENERAL.—No Federal funds, and no per-
7 sonal funds of a United States Ambassador or other
8 United States official, may be obligated or expended to
9 host a fundraising event for, or on behalf of, a foreign
10 political party or candidate at a United States embassy
11 or consulate or any other United States diplomatic post,
12 or at the residence of such Ambassador or other official.

13 (c) FUNDRAISING EVENT DEFINED.—In this section,
14 the term “fundraising event” means an event intended to
15 raise funds for, or on behalf of, a political party or can-
16 didate, including by knowingly facilitating contact between
17 potential donors and political parties or candidates for
18 fundraising purposes.

19 (d) RESTRICTION ON ENTERTAINMENT AND REP-
20 RESENTATION EXPENSES.—Section 905 of the Foreign
21 Service Act of 1980 (22 U.S.C. 4085) is amended by add-
22 ing at the end the following: “The Secretary may not pro-
23 vide for official receptions or pay expenses related to ac-
24 tivities by the Department or the Service, hosted by a
25 United States embassy or consulate or other United States

1 diplomatic post, intended to raise funds for or on behalf
2 of a foreign political party or candidate.”.

3 (e) ADDITIONAL RESTRICTION ON EXPENDITURES.—

4 Section 4(b)(2)(H) of the State Department Basic Au-
5 thorities Act of 1956 (22 U.S.C. 2671(b)(2)(H)) is
6 amended by inserting “, other than functions at a United
7 States embassy or consulate or any other United States
8 diplomatic post intended to raise funds for or on behalf
9 of a foreign political party or candidate” after “allow-
10 ances”.

11 (f) REVISION OF DSSR AND FAM.—

12 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of State shall
13 revise the Department of State Standardized Regu-
14 lations (DSSR) and the Foreign Affairs Manual
15 (FAM) to prohibit the use of a United States em-
16 bassy or consulate or any other United States diplo-
17 matic post in a manner intended to raise funds for
18 or on behalf of a foreign political party or candidate,
19 reflect the prohibitions on expenditures under this
20 section, and discourage any activity hosted by a
21 United States embassy or consulate or other United
22 States diplomatic post that could be construed as
23 promoting the financial interest of any foreign polit-
24 ical party or candidate relative to others engaged in
25 a democratic electoral process.

1 (2) CERTIFICATION.—Not less than 90 days
2 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Sec-
3 retary shall certify to the appropriate congressional
4 committees that the revisions required under para-
5 graph (1) have been made.

6 (3) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMIT-
7 TEES DEFINED.—In this subsection, the term “ap-
8 propriate congressional committees” means the
9 Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate and
10 the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of
11 Representatives.