

Click here to see the bill

March 20, 2024

The Honorable Jason Stephens Speaker of the Ohio House of Representatives 77 South High Street Floor 14 Columbus, OH 43215

Dear Speaker Stephens,

On behalf of the over 2.1 million members of AMAC – Association of Mature American Citizens, including over 90,900 residing in the state of Ohio, I write to offer our strong support for S.B. 215, the Prohibit Foreign National Contributions for Ballot Issues Act that is now being considered in the Ohio House of Representatives.

It is a direct assault on the sovereignty of our nation to allow foreign agents of any kind to use financial contributions to influence national, state, county, or local politics in any way. In the final tally of votes on a measure, this kind of manipulation conflicts with the will of the people and sets a path void of fidelity in the message that voters truly intend for their governments. It allows those without the best interest of our Nation and individual States to exploit our future for their needs while denigrating the primacy of our citizens. In every way, Americans should stand against these efforts by foreign agents and complicit elected officials who value financial gain over loyalty to their constituents.

An effective way to reduce foreign influence over the future of Ohio is to pass laws to "prohibit foreign national contributions for ballot issues." Section 3517(W) of Senate Bill 215 places a hard stop on foreign financial control efforts in paragraphs (1)(a) & (b). Paragraphs (2)(a) & (b) block elected officials and other government entities and efforts from accepting foreign money as well. Indeed, the legislation defines penalties for breaking this law as a deterrent against these actions by potential beneficiaries of ill-gotten financial gain. This bill, when made law, is a fine example of what it looks like to support and defend the state of Ohio from all enemies, foreign and domestic.

AMAC thanks you, Speaker Stephens, and your House colleagues, for your consideration of S.B. 215, and we strongly encourage you to ensure it becomes law in Ohio.

Sincerely,

Bob Carlstrom President AMAC Action