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August 26, 2026

The Honorable Bryan Steil

House Committee on Administration
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Chuck Grassley

Senate Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable James Comer

House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell

Senate Committee on Rules & Administration
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Jason Smith

House Committee on Ways & Means
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Mike Crapo

Senate Committee on Finance
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairmen:

On behalf of Americans for Public Trust, a nonprofit dedicated to restoring trust in government and promoting transparency and accountability, I urge you to learn more about the flow of foreign money influencing our political system. Our first-of-its-kind database, FollowForeignMoney.org, catalogs more than \$5 billion flowing from foreign governments, foreign nationals, and foreign “charities” into U.S.-based nonprofits shaping politics and public policy in our country.

As the 2026 election season accelerates, Americans are rightfully focused on protecting our institutions from improper outside influence. While federal law bars foreign nationals from contributing directly to candidates and campaigns, significant loopholes remain. These allow foreign money to enter the American political ecosystem through tax-exempt entities, advocacy organizations, ballot measure committees, voter-registration efforts, litigation, and other influence operations that shape law and policy well beyond any single race.

The public deserves transparency - and demands accountability - when it comes to the foreign interests and complex web of nonprofits quietly using foreign money to affect federal, state, and local policy outcomes.

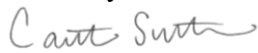
Many foreign-backed U.S. advocacy groups influence the political landscape through lobbying, litigation, organizing, protests, ad campaigns, and ballot issue campaigns. APT has produced [numerous reports](#), which are also linked on the database website, chronicling the ideological motivations of the many groups tangled in this complex funding web.

Our database can be used by you as a tool to identify which organizations are receiving foreign money, how those funds are being routed, and whether existing laws are preventing foreign actors from influencing political outcomes through indirect means.

Americans for Public Trust's [state legislative tracker](#) shows a growing movement to confront foreign funding in ballot measure campaigns, and APT has highlighted recent efforts to close this foreign influence loophole in states such as Nebraska, Iowa, Missouri, and Ohio. The House recently took an important step by passing the Stop Foreign Funds in Elections Act, which would close this loophole in all states. We urge the Senate to move expeditiously to pass the bill.

This issue should not be partisan. Americans of all ideological backgrounds agree that our nation's laws, elections, and public debates should be shaped by American citizens and lawful domestic stakeholders, not by foreign billionaires, foreign "charities," or overseas entities exploiting legal loopholes. We created this database because our leaders cannot combat this threat in the dark. The information is available. The threat is real. And with the midterm elections approaching, the time is now to prioritize legislation barring foreign money influencing American politics.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Caitlin Sutherland".

Caitlin Sutherland
Executive Director
Americans for Public Trust