

117TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 4713

To authorize the Federal Communications Commission to specify additional sources from which a radio station licensee must obtain information to enable the licensee to announce that a foreign governmental entity has paid for a broadcast.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

AUGUST 2, 2022

Mr. SCHATZ (for himself and Mrs. BLACKBURN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

A BILL

To authorize the Federal Communications Commission to specify additional sources from which a radio station licensee must obtain information to enable the licensee to announce that a foreign governmental entity has paid for a broadcast.

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. ANNOUNCEMENT OF PAYMENT FOR BROAD-**
4 **CAST.**

5 Section 317(c) of the Communications Act of 1934
6 (47 U.S.C. 317(c)) is amended to read as follows:

1 “(c)(1) The licensee of each radio station shall exer-
2 cise reasonable diligence to obtain information to enable
3 such licensee to make the announcement required by this
4 section.

5 “(2) In carrying out paragraph (1), the licensee of
6 a radio station shall consult—

7 “(A) its employees;

8 “(B) other persons with whom it deals directly
9 in connection with any program or program matter
10 for broadcast; and

11 “(C) any additional source of information the
12 Commission designates that may enable the licensee
13 to verify whether the matter broadcast by the radio
14 station was paid for or furnished by a foreign gov-
15 ernmental entity.

16 “(3) The licensee of a radio station shall—

17 “(A) obtain the information required under
18 paragraph (1)—

19 “(i) when the licensee enters into an agree-
20 ment to lease time on the radio station; and

21 “(ii) when the licensee renews any agree-
22 ment described in clause (i); and

23 “(B) keep a record of the information required
24 under paragraph (1).

25 “(4) For purposes of this subsection—

1 “(A) the term ‘agent of a foreign principal’
2 means an agent of a foreign principal, as defined in
3 section 1(c) of the Foreign Agents Registration Act
4 of 1938, as amended (22 U.S.C. 611(c))—

5 “(i) that is registered as such with the At-
6 torney General under section 2 of that Act (22
7 U.S.C. 612);

8 “(ii) if the agent’s foreign principal—

9 “(I) is a government of a foreign
10 country or a foreign political party; or

11 “(II) is directly or indirectly operated,
12 supervised, directed, owned, controlled, fi-
13 nanced, or subsidized by the government of
14 a foreign country or a foreign political
15 party; and

16 “(iii) that is acting in its capacity as an
17 agent of such foreign principal described in
18 clause (ii);

19 “(B) the term ‘foreign governmental entity’ in-
20 cludes—

21 “(i) the government of a foreign country;

22 “(ii) a foreign political party;

23 “(iii) an agent of a foreign principal; and

24 “(iv) a United States-based foreign media
25 outlet (as defined in section 624);

1 “(C) the term ‘foreign political party’ has the
2 meaning given the term in section 1(f) of the For-
3 eign Agents Registration Act of 1938, as amended
4 (22 U.S.C. 611(f)); and

5 “(D) the term ‘government of a foreign coun-
6 try’ has the meaning given the term in section 1(e)
7 of the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938, as
8 amended (22 U.S.C. 611(e)).”.

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