

REFERENCE TITLE: **securing America's lands; foreign interference**

State of Arizona
House of Representatives
Fifty-sixth Legislature
First Regular Session
2023

HR 2002

Introduced by
Representative Griffin

A CONCURRENT MEMORIAL

URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO ENACT THE SECURING AMERICA'S LAND
FROM FOREIGN INTERFERENCE ACT OR SIMILAR LEGISLATION.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 To the Congress of the United States:

2 Your memorialist respectfully represents:

3 Whereas, the United States Department of Agriculture reports that at
4 the end of 2020, foreign investors held an interest in more than 37
5 million acres of United States agricultural land, with China's investment
6 increasing from 13,720 acres in 2010 to more than 350,000 in 2020; and

7 Whereas, from 2009 to 2016, China's agricultural investments in
8 countries around the world grew substantially; and

9 Whereas, Chinese investments in American property could provide the
10 Chinese Communist Party with undue leverage over our nation's supply
11 chains as well as access to sensitive national security information; and

12 Whereas, approximately 14 states have restrictions in place
13 regarding the amount of private agricultural land that foreign interests
14 may own, but the federal government has yet to enact any restrictions on
15 foreign ownership of United States real estate; and

16 Whereas, as American farmers age and the amount of U.S. farmland
17 changing hands increases in coming years, foreign land grabbing will
18 become an even greater threat; and

19 Whereas, foreign investments in American farmland, particularly by
20 the Chinese Communist Party, not only provide opportunities for espionage
21 against our military bases and infrastructure but may also undermine our
22 nation's food security; and

23 Whereas, in the last congressional session, several members of
24 Congress introduced legislation known as the "Securing America's Land from
25 Foreign Interference Act." These bills, S. 4703 and H.R. 3847, would
26 require the United States President to take action to prohibit members of
27 the Chinese Communist Party from purchasing public or private real estate
28 located in the United States; and

29 Whereas, it is imperative that Congress take action to prohibit our
30 nation's top adversaries from purchasing land in the United States in
31 order to protect our nation's food supply and national security.

32 Wherefore your memorialist, the House of Representatives of the State of
33 Arizona, the Senate concurring, prays:

34 1. That the United States Congress enact the Securing America's
35 Land from Foreign Interference Act, or similar legislation, to prohibit
36 the sale of United States land to foreign investors.

37 2. That the Secretary of State of the State of Arizona transmit
38 copies of this Memorial to the President of the United States, the
39 President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States
40 House of Representatives and each Member of Congress from the State of
41 Arizona.