

Senate Executive Departments and Administration Committee

Ben Mickens 271-1403

SB 528-FN, prohibiting receiving compensation for lobbying on behalf of a foreign adversary.

Hearing Date: January 21, 2026

Time Opened: 9:00 a.m.

Time Closed: 9:10 a.m.

Members of the Committee Present: Senators Pearl and McGough

Members of the Committee Absent : Senators Altschiller, Gannon and Reardon

Bill Analysis: This bill prohibits a lobbyist from receiving compensation for carrying out any lobbying activity on behalf of certain designated foreign adversaries.

Sponsors:
Sen. Birdsell

Who supports the bill: Senator Regina Birdsell, Tom Rowlings (State Shield), Ted Kirchner

Who opposes the bill:

Who is neutral on the bill:

Summary of testimony presented in support:

Senator Regina Birdsell (prime)

- This bill prohibits lobbying on behalf of foreign adversaries.
- This bill does not allow our lobbyists to take compensation from our adversaries (e.g. CCP)
 - Allowing this does not benefit the US at all
- China has been increasing their presence in NH specifically. We should not allow them to use lobbyists in our state. Against our state's interest.
- This has been an issue in other states in local elections such as mayor races. Chinese companies do not need to have a say in our politics.
- Legislators should be able to work without the input of foreign adversaries

Tom Rawlings, Policy Director, (State Shield)

- We appreciate the bill. Our organization is working hard to inform policy makers across the country about the China threat, specifically at the state level.
- When someone works on behalf of a European company, they are working on behalf of stockholders. With Chinese companies, they are working on behalf of CCP. This is the same with lobbyists.
- If one is taking money from foreign adversaries, they should not be coming in front of legislators.

Ted Kirchner

- We need lobbyists representing Americans, not foreign interests.
- Our adversaries are seeking to undermine our national interests by using our political systems against us.
- Other states have passed similar bans.

Summary of testimony presented in opposition: None

Neutral Information Presented: None

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Date Hearing Report completed: January 21, 2026