



October 15, 2019

United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Member of Congress:

People For the American Way (PFAW) and its more than 1.5 million supporters nationwide strongly support the principle of preventing foreign interference in our elections, and we view it as critical to achieving our vision of a vibrant democratic society that works for all of us. PFAW is thus an enthusiastic endorser of the SHIELD Act (H.R. 4617). We thank Chairperson Lofgren and the bill's cosponsors for their leadership. We urge all members to cosponsor and vote in favor of this landmark set of reforms aimed at addressing the democratic challenges of our times.

This critically important legislation tackles the threat of foreign intervention into our democracy in several ways:

- Creates a duty to report illicit offers of campaign assistance from foreign governments and their agents.
- Helps prevent foreign interference in future elections by improving transparency of online political advertisements.
- Closes loopholes that allow foreign nationals and foreign governments to spend in U.S. elections.
- Restricts exchange of campaign information between candidates and foreign governments and their agents.
- Prohibits deceptive practices about voting procedures.

It is imperative that the federal government takes steps toward protecting our democratic process from foreign influence. Free and fair elections are the bedrock of democracy, and the very real vulnerabilities witnessed in the 2016 election will only worsen without congressional action.

We urge you to cosponsor and support the SHIELD Act (H.R. 4617) and take bold action to protect our democracy.

Sincerely,

Marge Baker  
Executive Vice President for Policy and Program