

HB 2879 -- FOREIGN AGENT REGISTRATION

SPONSOR: Simmons

This bill prohibits any person from engaging in political activities as an agent of a hostile foreign principal, as defined in the bill, unless the person registers with the Missouri Ethics Commission.

The bill specifies the necessary information for the registration statement.

This bill requires any foreign-supported political organization to provide a similar set of information to the Missouri Ethics Commission.

These registration statements will be required by the Missouri Ethics Commission on a quarterly basis for any person or entity that falls under the provisions of this bill.

Upon receipt of a complaint alleging a failure of a required person or entity to register with the Missouri Ethics Commission, the Commission will have authority to investigate and assess penalties.

Maximum penalties for violations of the registration requirement are provided in the bill.

The Missouri Ethics Commission will have the discretion to refer any matter to the Attorney General for further action.