

118TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 1157

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 10, 2024

Received; read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

AN ACT

To provide for the authorization of appropriations for the Countering the People's Republic of China Malign Influence Fund, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Countering the PRC
3 Malign Influence Fund Authorization Act of 2023”.

4 **SEC. 2. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR COUN-**
5 **TERING THE PEOPLE’S REPUBLIC OF CHINA**
6 **MALIGN INFLUENCE FUND.**

7 (a) COUNTERING THE PEOPLE’S REPUBLIC OF
8 CHINA MALIGN INFLUENCE FUND.—

9 (1) IN GENERAL.—There is authorized to be
10 appropriated \$325,000,000 for each of fiscal years
11 2023 through 2027 for the Countering the People’s
12 Republic of China Malign Influence Fund to counter
13 the malign influence of the Chinese Communist
14 Party and the Government of the People’s Republic
15 of China and entities acting on their behalf globally.

16 (2) AVAILABILITY; AMOUNTS IN ADDITION TO
17 OTHER AMOUNTS.—Amounts appropriated pursuant
18 to the authorization of appropriations under para-
19 graph (1)—

20 (A) are authorized to remain available
21 until expended; and

22 (B) shall be in addition to amounts other-
23 wise authorized to be appropriated for the pur-
24 poses described in paragraph (1).

25 (b) CONSULTATION REQUIRED.—The obligation of
26 funds appropriated pursuant to the authorization of ap-

1 appropriations under subsection (a) or otherwise made avail-
2 able for the purposes described in subsection (a)(1) shall
3 be subject to prior consultation with, and consistent with
4 section 634A of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22
5 U.S.C. 2394–1), the regular notification procedures of—

6 (1) the Committee on Foreign Relations and
7 the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate; and

8 (2) the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the
9 Committee on Appropriations of the House of Rep-
10 resentatives.

11 (c) POLICY GUIDANCE, COORDINATION, AND AP-
12 PROVAL.—

13 (1) COORDINATOR.—The Secretary of State
14 shall designate an existing senior official of the De-
15 partment of State to provide policy guidance, coordi-
16 nation, and approval for the obligation of funds ap-
17 propriated pursuant to the authorization of appro-
18 priations under subsection (a).

19 (2) ASSISTANT COORDINATOR.—The Adminis-
20 trator of the United States Agency for International
21 Development shall designate an existing senior offi-
22 cial of the United States Agency for International
23 Development to assist and consult with the senior
24 official of the Department of State designated pur-
25 suant to paragraph (1).

1 (3) DUTIES.—The senior official of the Depart-
2 ment of State designated pursuant to paragraph (1)
3 shall be responsible for—

4 (A) on an annual basis, the identification
5 of specific strategic priorities for using funds
6 appropriated pursuant to the authorization of
7 appropriations under subsection (a), such as ge-
8 ographic areas of focus or functional categories
9 of programming that funds are to be con-
10 centrated within, consistent with the national
11 interests of the United States and the purposes
12 of this section;

13 (B) the coordination and approval of all
14 programming conducted using such funds,
15 based on an assessment that such programming
16 directly counters the malign influence of the
17 Chinese Communist Party or the Government
18 of the People’s Republic of China, including
19 specific activities or policies advanced by the
20 Chinese Communist Party or the Government
21 of the People’s Republic of China and entities
22 acting on their behalf globally, pursuant to the
23 strategic objectives of the United States, as es-
24 tablished in the 2017 National Security Strat-
25 egy, the 2018 National Defense Strategy, and

1 other relevant national and regional strategies
2 as appropriate;

3 (C) ensuring that all programming ap-
4 proved bears a sufficiently direct nexus to such
5 activities of the Chinese Communist Party or
6 the Government of the People’s Republic of
7 China described in subsection (d) and adheres
8 to the requirements outlined in subsection (e);
9 and

10 (D) conducting oversight, monitoring, and
11 evaluation of the effectiveness of all program-
12 ming conducted using such funds to ensure that
13 it advances United States interests and de-
14 grades the ability of the Chinese Communist
15 Party or the Government of the People’s Re-
16 public of China, to advance activities that align
17 with subsection (d) of this section.

18 (4) INTERAGENCY COORDINATION.—The senior
19 official of the Department of State designated pur-
20 suant to paragraph (1) shall, in coordinating and
21 approving programming pursuant to paragraph (2),
22 seek—

23 (A) to conduct appropriate interagency
24 consultation; and

1 (B) to ensure, to the maximum extent
2 practicable, that all approved programming
3 functions in concert with other Federal activi-
4 ties to counter the malign influence of the Chi-
5 nese Communist Party or the Government of
6 the People’s Republic of China.

7 (d) MALIGN INFLUENCE.—In this section, the term
8 “malign influence”, with respect to the Chinese Com-
9 munist Party or the Government of the People’s Republic
10 of China, shall be construed to include acts conducted by
11 the Chinese Communist Party or the Government of the
12 People’s Republic of China, or entities acting on their be-
13 half that—

14 (1) undermine a free and open international
15 order;

16 (2) advance an alternative, repressive inter-
17 national order that bolsters the Chinese Communist
18 Party’s or the Government of the People’s Republic
19 of China’s hegemonic ambitions and is characterized
20 by coercion and dependency;

21 (3) undermine the national security or sov-
22 ereignty of the United States or other countries; or

23 (4) undermine the economic security of the
24 United States or other countries, including by pro-

1 moting corruption and advancing coercive economic
2 practices.

3 (e) COUNTERING MALIGN INFLUENCE.—In this sec-
4 tion, countering malign influence through the use of funds
5 appropriated pursuant to the authorization of appropria-
6 tions under subsection (a) shall include efforts—

7 (1) to promote transparency and accountability,
8 and reduce corruption, including in governance
9 structures targeted by the malign influence of the
10 Chinese Communist Party or the Government of the
11 People’s Republic of China;

12 (2) to support civil society and independent
13 media to raise awareness of and increase trans-
14 parency regarding the negative impact of activities
15 related to the Belt and Road Initiative, associated
16 initiatives, other economic initiatives with strategic
17 or political purposes, and coercive economic prac-
18 tices;

19 (3) to counter transnational criminal networks
20 that benefit, or benefit from, the malign influence of
21 the Chinese Communist Party or the Government of
22 the People’s Republic of China;

23 (4) to encourage economic development struc-
24 tures that help protect against predatory lending
25 schemes, including support for market-based alter-

1 natives in key economic sectors, such as digital econ-
2 omy, energy, and infrastructure;

3 (5) to counter activities that provide undue in-
4 fluence to the security forces of the People’s Repub-
5 lic of China;

6 (6) to expose misinformation and
7 disinformation of the Chinese Communist Party’s or
8 the Government of the People’s Republic of China’s
9 propaganda, including through programs carried out
10 by the Global Engagement Center; and

11 (7) to counter efforts by the Chinese Com-
12 munist Party or the Government of the People’s Re-
13 public of China to legitimize or promote authori-
14 tarian ideology and governance models.

15 (f) ANNUAL SUMMARY.—Not later than September
16 30, 2023, and annually thereafter for 5 years, the senior
17 official of the Department of State designated pursuant
18 to subsection (c)(1) shall submit to the congressional com-
19 mittees specified in paragraphs (1) and (2) of subsection
20 (b), a summary identifying each activity or program ap-
21 proved pursuant to subsection (c), and shall include—

22 (1) for each program or activity, an identifica-
23 tion of the country or regional location of the pro-
24 gram or activity;

