

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2939

To amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit the knowing disclosure of false information to the public to the detriment of the United States or for the purpose of influencing an election for Federal office, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 30, 2021

Mr. POSEY introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit the knowing disclosure of false information to the public to the detriment of the United States or for the purpose of influencing an election for Federal office, 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,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “No Meddling in Amer-
5 ican Elections Act of 2021”.

1 **SEC. 2. PUBLIC DISCLOSURE OF FALSE INFORMATION.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 37 of title 18, United
3 States Code, is amended by inserting after section 798A
4 the following:

5 **“§ 798B. Public disclosure of false information**

6 “Whoever, being an officer or employee of the Fed-
7 eral Government, knowingly and willfully communicates,
8 furnishes, transmits, publishes, disseminates, or otherwise
9 makes available to the public any false information—

10 “(1) in any manner prejudicial to the safety or
11 interest of the United States or for the benefit of
12 any foreign government (as such term is defined in
13 section 798) to the detriment of the United States,
14 except with the approval of the President; or

15 “(2) for the purpose of influencing an election
16 for Federal office (as such terms are defined in sec-
17 tion 301 of the Federal Election Campaign Act of
18 1971 (52 U.S.C. 30101)),

19 shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than
20 ten years, or both.”.

21 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections
22 for chapter 37 of title 18, United States Code, is amended
23 by inserting after the item related to section 798A the fol-
24 lowing:

“798B. Public disclosure of false information”.