

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 2653

To prohibit funding for heads of state meetings and multilateral summits
at any Trump Organization-owned property.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

OCTOBER 21, 2019

Mr. MERKLEY (for himself, Mr. MARKEY, and Ms. HIRONO) introduced the
following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on
Foreign Relations

A BILL

To prohibit funding for heads of state meetings and multilateral
summits at any Trump Organization-owned property.

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 “Scrutinizing White
5 House Activities that Make Profits Act of 2019” or the
6 “SWAMP Act”.

7 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

8 Congress makes the following findings:

1 (1) The United States Government directing
2 business to a property owned by the President of the
3 United States constitutes a profound financial con-
4 flict of interest.

5 (2) The delegates to the Constitutional Conven-
6 tion included the emoluments clause to the United
7 States Constitution (Article I, Section 9, Clause 8)
8 to guard against the corrupting influence of United
9 States officeholders profiting from gifts from foreign
10 governments.

11 (3) Many experts agree that a plain reading of
12 the emoluments clause prohibits the President from
13 directing business from a foreign state to a property
14 owned by him.

15 **SEC. 3. PROHIBITION ON FUNDING FOR HEADS OF STATE**
16 **MEETINGS AND MULTILATERAL SUMMITS.**

17 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—No funds appropriated or other-
18 wise made available for fiscal year 2020 or any other fiscal
19 year may be obligated or expended to host any head of
20 state meeting or multilateral summit at a covered prop-
21 erty.

22 (b) **COVERED PROPERTY DEFINED.**—For the pur-
23 poses of the prohibition in subsection (a), the term “cov-
24 ered property” means—

- 1 (1) Trump International Hotel, Washington
- 2 DC;
- 3 (2) Trump Tower, New York;
- 4 (3) Trump National Doral Golf Resort;
- 5 (4) Mar-a-Lago Club; and
- 6 (5) any other property in which the President
- 7 or his immediate family holds a majority ownership.

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