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State Shield Applauds Governor Brian Kemp and Georgia Assembly For Ensuring Education Transparency

State Shield, a national organization that equips state leaders to defend against hostile foreign influence, congratulates Governor Brian Kemp and the Georgia General Assembly for passing House Bill 150 into law which both ensures transparency in foreign funding of our colleges and universities and serves as a reminder to our education authorities that hostile foreign nations who offer such funding may not be doing so for altruistic reasons.

"House Bill 150 is common-sense legislation. It ensures that if a hostile foreign entity is investing in or funding a University System of Georgia unit, the public must be informed of those investments," said Joe Gebbia, CEO & Founder of State Shield. "We are grateful for the leadership and vision of both Rep. Tim Fleming and Sen. Clint Dixon in shepherding this bill through, and we are thankful to Governor Kemp for enacting it into law."

"Although many individuals, businesses, and institutions support higher education because they want to see our nation prosper and our students thrive, there are others who use their money to gain undue influence, steal the intellectual fruits of our work, and corrupt our universities," said Rep. Tim Fleming. "I was pleased to sponsor this legislation and work with my colleagues in the House and Senate to get it passed. I am grateful to Governor Kemp for signing it into law. This legislation serves as a reminder to our higher education leaders that we must be vigilant for those corrupting foreign influences."

The new law requires Georgia's public universities to produce quarterly reports of funding they receive from hostile foreign adversaries like the People's Republic of China, Islamic Republic of Iran, North Korea, and other foreign adversary nations as designated by the federal government.

It applies only to significant gifts and significant capital investments made by an entity associated with those hostile foreign adversary nations. Georgia's public universities are also now required to disclose the type of funding received from the hostile foreign entity, including grants, gifts, and capital investments. This common sense approach improves transparency by shining a light on potential hostile actions taken by bad actors.

About State Shield

Our mission is to educate State leaders regarding the dangers a resurgent and aggressive China poses to the United States. By proposing policy, executive, and legislative solutions to counter China's efforts to undermine the United States, we work to ensure our States, their citizens, and their infrastructure are protected from this threat. Learn more at state-shield.org.

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