

The Select Committee on the Chinese Communist Party: Gallagher, Thompson lead bipartisan CFIUS reform, protecting U.S. farmland and sensitive sites from foreign adversaries act

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WASHINGTON, DC - Chairman Mike Gallagher (R-WI), of the Select Committee on the CCP, and Rep. Mike Thompson (D-CA) today introduced hallmark legislation to give the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States (CFIUS) jurisdiction over all land purchases by foreign adversary entities and require mandatory CFIUS filing for foreign adversary entities making land purchases near sensitive sites, including all military facilities. This bill would mark the first change to CFIUS' mandate since 2018.

Chairman Gallagher and Rep. Thompson introduced this bill, the Protecting U.S. Farmland and Sensitive Sites From Foreign Adversaries Act, alongside Rep. Dan Newhouse (R-WA), Rep. John Garamendi (D-CA), Rep. Dusty Johnson (R-SD), Rep. Ed Case (D-HI), House GOP Conference Chair Elise Stefanik (R-NY), Rep. Jim Costa (D-CA), Rep. Frank Lucas (R-OK), Rep. Jimmy Panetta (D-CA), Rep. Rob Wittman (R-VA), Rep. Jason Crow (D-CO), Rep. Randy Feenstra (R-IA), Rep. Salud Carbajal (D-CA), Rep. Jim Banks (R-IN), Rep. Salud Carbajal (D-CA), Rep. Mary Pelto (D-AK), and Rep. Ashley Hinson (R-IA).

“The United States cannot allow foreign adversaries like the Chinese Communist Party and its proxies to acquire real estate near sensitive sites like military bases or

telecom infrastructure, potentially exploiting our critical technology and endangering our servicemembers. This bill gives CFIUS jurisdiction over foreign adversary real estate transactions to guard against the threat of the CCP and other adversaries purchasing land for malign purposes, and it also encourages CFIUS to consider food security issues as it evaluates the national security risk of a given transaction,” **said Rep. Gallagher.**

“Protecting national security and food security go hand in hand in our region – which is why it is vital to know who owns land around national security sites,” **said Rep. Thompson.** “The bipartisan legislation I am introducing with Chairman Gallagher will help identify foreign actors who are seeking to purchase land near military installations while maintaining food security throughout our country.”

The bill would:

1. Give CFIUS jurisdiction over all land purchases (with exceptions for real estate in urban areas and single housing units) by foreign adversary entities.
2. Authorize CFIUS to consider U.S. food security, including via biotechnology acquisition, as a factor in its national security reviews and require the Secretary of Agriculture have a vote in CFIUS reviews of transactions that involve farmland or agriculture technology.
3. Establish a negative presumption (“presumption of non-resolvability”) for CFIUS reviews that raises the approval threshold for CFIUS transactions by a foreign adversary entity purchasing land near sensitive sites (e.g., major military sites, acknowledged intelligence facilities, etc.)
4. Mandate CFIUS filing for foreign adversary entities making land purchases near sensitive sites. This will ensure CFIUS remains apprised of ongoing real estate purchases by foreign adversary entities.
5. Expand the list of sensitive national security sites designated for CFIUS jurisdiction.

“Safeguarding our food supply chains and national security from foreign adversaries like the Chinese Communist Party will always be a top priority of mine. We must ensure our government agencies have the necessary resources to stop bad actors from gaining a foothold in our homeland. I am proud to introduce this legislation as a continuation of my efforts to stop the CCP and all foreign adversaries from putting our food supply and national security at risk,” **said Rep. Newhouse.**

“As the proud Representative of Travis Air Force Base in Congress for over a

decade, the recent land purchases near the base by unknown investors raise serious questions and concerns. Travis, also known as the 'Gateway to the Pacific,' is one of the most strategically valuable installations within the U.S. military. We must do everything in our capacity to ensure Travis is fully protected and supported," **said Rep. Garamendi.** "Though Flannery Associates claims that it is not controlled by foreign entities, they have shockingly failed to provide any proof to local and federal officials. This issue raises serious security concerns for our community and the critical military operations at Travis. That's why I greatly appreciate this important bipartisan legislation and look forward to continuing to work with my colleagues to protect our communities and defend our national security."

"Food security is national security, and I've been fighting to get the Secretary of Agriculture a seat at the table for a long time - this bill builds on that fight. As we witness growing threats from foreign adversaries on American soil, Congress should work overtime to ensure our military bases, food sources, and research facilities are protected. Our bill provides CFIUS will the tools needed to keep America's enemies away from our most sensitive areas," **said Rep. Johnson.**

"The People's Republic of China has an alarming history of leveraging foreign investment to gain access to sensitive information," **said Rep. Case.** " This type of foreign espionage is a serious threat to national security. This bill will help close the gaps in our oversight of foreign purchases and their use of agricultural land, especially near our military bases and training sites. This will help ensure that the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States can fully assess investments that can compromise our security and intelligence sites."

"Food security is national security. Communist China buying up U.S. agricultural land is just one of the CCP's many attempts to subvert our sovereignty and threaten our national security. I will continue to fight to protect our agricultural land and to ensure that our country's food security and national security are prioritized. I am proud to support this legislation that will mandate heightened scrutiny over adversarial land purchases near our military installations," **said Chair Stefanik.**

"Food is a national security issue. Increasing foreign ownership of American farms and farmland is a threat to our food security," **said Rep. Costa.** "We need to prevent foreign adversaries like China from undermining the American agricultural industry. This bill will ensure American agriculture is operated by American businesses."

“A resilient food supply is essential to national security, which is why the rise of foreign investments in our nation’s farmlands deserves increased scrutiny. I have long supported adding the Secretary of Agriculture on CFIUS, which will equip the Committee with the expertise needed to identify potential threats to our national security,” **said Rep. Lucas.** “I’m pleased to be an original cosponsor and commend Congressman Gallagher for his work on this important legislation.”

“Our geopolitical adversaries are exploiting loopholes in regulations to purchase farmland and other agricultural assets, threatening our national and food security,” **said Rep. Panetta.** “I’m proud to join this bipartisan effort to ensure CFIUS has the jurisdiction and mandate needed to properly vet these foreign purchases as in the best interest of the United States. This is a necessary step to counter any malign efforts to weaken U.S. agricultural independence and security.”

“The scope and scale of the Chinese Communist Party’s activities in the United States is deeply alarming,” **said Rep. Wittman.** “Entities with clear ties to foreign adversaries should not be permitted to purchase land near U.S. military bases, intelligence facilities, or national laboratories. I’m proud to join this effort to equip the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States with the tools it needs to protect our national interests.”

American farmland belongs to American farmers — period. For the sake of our national, energy, and food security, we cannot let China, or any other foreign adversary, buy our fertile farmland, prevent our young producers from planting their roots, or jeopardize our agricultural supply chains,” **said Rep. Feenstra.** “I am proud to work with my colleagues to introduce legislation to protect American farmland from foreign acquisition, particularly the Chinese Communist Party, and keep American farmland where it rightfully belongs — in the hands of American farmers.”

“Just like you wouldn’t invite a burglar into your backyard, we cannot allow foreign adversaries access to our nation’s most sensitive security sites. This is a no-brainer piece of legislation that I hope will be brought for a vote very soon,” **said Rep. Banks.**

“The CCP isn’t buying up U.S. farmland at random - it is a deliberate effort to exert control over our food supply and have easier access to military sites. Our legislation will strengthen oversight of foreign land purchases and prevent the CCP from buying up American farmland to protect our food supply and national

security,” **said Rep. Hinson.**

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