

116TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 2653

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

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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

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## 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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