HB 393: Banning Foreign Funding in Ballot Initiatives

Rep. Pierucci



What The Bill Does

- Prohibits a foreign national from contributing to an individual or entity subject to campaign reporting requirements.
- Prohibits those subject to campaign reporting requirements from knowingly soliciting, accepting, or receiving a contribution from a foreign national
- Requires such an individual to report any contributions received to the lieutenant governor and disperse the value of the contribution into the state's general fund.
- Prohibits any person from facilitating a violation of this bill and establishes a criminal penalty.
- Requires the lieutenant governor to impose a civil penalty against a foreign national who violates this bill.

The Facts

- Foreign funding is already in issue in many states. Since 2014, a foreign fund known as the Sixteen Thirty Fund has spent \$130 million in 25 states.
- Swiss billionaire Hansjorg Wyss has individually given \$250 million to this fund.
- These funds have focused on changing law in many policy areas, such as abortion and elections.
- \$32 million of this funding was poured directly into ballot campaigns in 2024 alone.
- 78% of Americans agree that foreign nationals should not be influencing our elections