

General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 6735

January Session, 2025

AN ACT PROHIBITING THE OWNERSHIP, POSSESSION OR ACQUISITION OF INTERESTS IN REAL PROPERTY UPON OR ABUTTING MILITARY INSTALLATIONS OR AGRICULTURAL LANDS BY CERTAIN FOREIGN ENTITIES.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- 1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2025*) (a) As used in this section:
- 2 (1) "Agricultural land" has the same meaning as provided in section
 3 22-26bb of the general statutes;
- 4 (2) "Foreign country of concern" means the People's Republic of
 5 China or the Russian Federation, including any agency thereof or any
 6 other entity of significant control thereof;
- 7 (3) "Foreign principal" means (A) the government or any official of 8 the government of a foreign country of concern, (B) a political party or 9 member of a political party, or any subdivision of a political party, of a 10 foreign country of concern, (C) (i) a partnership, association, 11 corporation, organization or other combination of other persons 12 organized under the laws of, or having its principal place of business in, 13 a foreign country of concern, or (ii) a subsidiary of any entity described 14 in subparagraph (C)(i) of this subdivision, or (D) a person who is 15 domiciled in a foreign country of concern and is not a citizen or lawful 16 permanent resident of the United States; and

(4) "Military installation" means any military building, structure,
parcel of land or training site owned, leased or controlled by the federal
or state government.

(b) (1) A foreign principal shall not (A) directly or indirectly own, (B)
possess a controlling interest in, or (C) acquire by purchase, grant or
devise, any interest in real property that is upon or that abuts any
military installation or agricultural land in this state.

24 (2) A buyer of an interest in real property that abuts any military 25 installation or agricultural land in this state shall (A) at the time of 26 purchase, sign an affidavit under penalty of perjury attesting that (i) 27 such buyer is not a foreign principal, and (ii) such purchase is not in 28 violation of the provisions of subdivision (1) of this subsection, and (B) 29 not later than one business day after such purchase, file such affidavit 30 with the Adjutant General. The failure of the buyer or seller of such 31 interest in real property to retain a copy of such affidavit shall not affect 32 the title, or the insurability of the title, of such interest or subject any 33 closing agent for such buyer or seller to civil liability, unless any closing 34 attorney for such buyer or seller has actual knowledge that such 35 purchase is in violation of the provisions of subdivision (1) of this 36 subsection.

37 (c) If a foreign principal is a prospective buyer of an interest in real 38 property that is within a three-mile radius of any military installation in 39 this state, such foreign principal shall give notice of such foreign 40 principal's intent to buy such interest to the Adjutant General not later 41 than thirty days prior to such prospective purchase and in a form and 42 manner prescribed by the Adjutant General. Immediately upon receipt 43 of such notice, the Adjutant General shall review such prospective 44 purchase as it relates to the protection of public safety and security. Not 45 later than fifteen days after receipt of such notice, the Adjutant General 46 shall issue, in writing, to such prospective buyer and the Attorney 47 General the detailed findings of such review and a recommendation for 48 or against such prospective purchase.

(d) (1) (A) Any interest in real property owned, possessed or acquired
in violation of subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of this section shall be
subject to forfeiture in accordance with the provisions of this subsection.

(B) Any interest in real property the prospective purchase of which
the Adjutant General recommended against under subsection (c) of this
section may be subject to forfeiture in accordance with the provisions of
this subsection.

(2) The Attorney General is authorized to enforce the provisions of
this section by bringing a civil action in the superior court for the judicial
district in which an interest in real property described in subparagraph
(A) or (B) of subdivision (1) of this subsection, as applicable, is located
for the forfeiture of such interest.

(3) At any time during such forfeiture proceedings, the Attorney
General may seek from such superior court an ex parte order of seizure
of such interest in real property upon a showing that control of such
interest by the party against whom such civil action was brought
constitutes a clear and present danger to the state.

66 (4) If such superior court determines that (A) such interest in real 67 property is owned, possessed or acquired in violation of subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of this section, or (B) the basis for the Adjutant 68 69 General's recommendation against the prospective purchase of such 70 interest in real property under subsection (c) of this section was 71 reasonable, the court shall enter a final judgment of forfeiture vesting 72 title to such interest in the state, subject only to the rights and interests 73 of bona fide lienholders.

(5) The Commissioner of Administrative Services on behalf of the state may sell such interest in real property, subject to a final judgment of forfeiture. Proceeds from such a sale shall be applied first to the payment of each bona fide lienholder described in subdivision (4) of this subsection that may exist, next to the payment of each outstanding fine that may have been assessed by such superior court during such forfeiture proceedings and then to the payment of the person or entity

- 81 who was divested of such interest in real property pursuant to this
- 82 subsection.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	New section

Statement of Legislative Commissioners:

In Subsec. (b)(2), "sign an affidavit signed under" was changed to "sign an affidavit under" for clarity.

VA Joint Favorable Subst.