

116TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. _____

To prohibit the use of Department of Defense funds for the production of films by United States companies that alter content for screening in the People’s Republic of China, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

_____ introduced the following bill; which was read twice
and referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To prohibit the use of Department of Defense funds for the production of films by United States companies that alter content for screening in the People’s Republic of China, and for other purposes.

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 “Stopping Censorship,
5 Restoring Integrity, and Protecting Talkies Act” or the
6 “SCRIPT Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. LIMITATION ON USE OF DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE**
2 **FUNDS FOR PRODUCTION OF FILMS AND**
3 **PROHIBITION ON USE OF SUCH FUNDS FOR**
4 **FILMS SUBJECT TO CONDITIONS ON CON-**
5 **TENT OR ALTERED FOR SCREENING IN THE**
6 **PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA OR THE CHI-**
7 **NESE COMMUNIST PARTY.**

8 (a) LIMITATION ON USE OF DEPARTMENT OF DE-
9 FENSE FUNDS.—The Secretary of Defense may only pro-
10 vide technical support or access to an asset controlled by
11 the Department of Defense for, or enter into a contract
12 relating to, the production or funding of a film by a United
13 States company if the United States company, as a condi-
14 tion of receiving the support or access—

15 (1) provides a list of all films produced or fund-
16 ed by the United States company the content of
17 which has been submitted, during the shorter of the
18 preceding 10-year period or the period beginning on
19 the date of the enactment of this Act, to an official
20 of the Government of the People's Republic of China
21 or the Chinese Communist Party for evaluation with
22 respect to screening the film in the People's Repub-
23 lic of China, including, for each film—

24 (A) the title of the film; and

25 (B) the date on which the submittal oc-
26 curred; and

1 (2) enters into a written agreement with the
2 Secretary not to alter the content of the film in re-
3 sponse to, or in anticipation of, a request by an offi-
4 cial of the Government of the People’s Republic of
5 China or the Chinese Communist Party.

6 (b) PROHIBITION WITH RESPECT TO FILMS SUB-
7 JECT TO CONDITIONS ON CONTENT OR ALTERED FOR
8 SCREENING IN THE PEOPLE’S REPUBLIC OF CHINA.—
9 Notwithstanding subsection (a), the Secretary may not
10 provide technical support or access to any asset controlled
11 by the Department for, or enter into any contract relating
12 to, the production or funding of a film by a United States
13 company if—

14 (1) the film is co-produced by an entity located
15 in the People’s Republic of China that is subject to
16 conditions on content imposed by an official of the
17 Government of the People’s Republic of China or the
18 Chinese Communist Party; or

19 (2) with respect to the most recent report sub-
20 mitted under subsection (c), the United States com-
21 pany is listed in the report under subparagraph (C)
22 or (D) of paragraph (2) of that subsection.

23 (c) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—

24 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days
25 after the date of the enactment of this Act, and an-

1 nually thereafter, the Secretary shall submit to the
2 appropriate committees of Congress a report on
3 films disclosed under subsection (a) that are associ-
4 ated with a United States company that has received
5 technical support or access to an asset controlled by
6 the Department for, or has entered into a contract
7 with the Department relating to, the production or
8 funding of a film.

9 (2) ELEMENTS.—Each report required by para-
10 graph (1) shall include the following:

11 (A) A description of each film listed pursu-
12 ant to the requirement under subsection (a)(1)
13 the content of which was submitted, during the
14 shorter of the preceding 10-year period or the
15 period beginning on the date of the enactment
16 of this Act, by a United States company to an
17 official of the Government of the People’s Re-
18 public of China or the Chinese Communist
19 Party for evaluation with respect to screening
20 the film in the People’s Republic of China, in-
21 cluding—

22 (i) the United States company that
23 submitted the contents of the film;

24 (ii) the title of the film; and

1 (iii) the date on which the submittal
2 occurred.

3 (B) A description of each film with respect
4 to which a United States company entered into
5 a written agreement with the Secretary pursu-
6 ant to the requirement under subsection (a)(2)
7 not to alter the content of the film in response
8 to, or in anticipation of, a request by an official
9 of the Government of the People's Republic of
10 China or the Chinese Communist Party, during
11 the shorter of the preceding 10-year period or
12 the period beginning on the date of the enact-
13 ment of this Act, including—

14 (i) the United States company that
15 entered into the agreement; and

16 (ii) the title of the film.

17 (C) The title of any film described under
18 subparagraph (A), and the corresponding
19 United States company described in clause (i)
20 of that subparagraph—

21 (i) that was submitted to an official of
22 the Government of the People's Republic of
23 China or the Chinese Communist Party
24 during the preceding 3-year period; and

1 (ii) for which the Secretary assesses
2 that the content was altered in response to,
3 or in anticipation of, a request by an offi-
4 cial of the Government of the People’s Re-
5 public of China or the Chinese Communist
6 Party.

7 (D) The title of any film that is described
8 in both subparagraph (A) and subparagraph
9 (B), and the corresponding one or more United
10 States companies described in clause (i) of each
11 such subparagraph—

12 (i) that was submitted to an official of
13 the Government of the People’s Republic of
14 China or the Chinese Communist Party
15 during the preceding 10-year period; and

16 (ii) for which the Secretary assesses
17 that the content was altered in response to,
18 or in anticipation of, a request by an offi-
19 cial of the Government of the People’s Re-
20 public of China or the Chinese Communist
21 Party.

22 (d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

23 (1) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CON-
24 GRESS.—The term “appropriate committees of Con-
25 gress” means—

1 (A) the Committee on Armed Services and
2 the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Sen-
3 ate; and

4 (B) the Committee on Armed Services and
5 the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House
6 of Representatives.

7 (2) CONTENT.—The term “content” means any
8 description of a film, including the script.

9 (3) UNITED STATES COMPANY.—The term
10 “United States company” means a private entity in-
11 corporated in the United States.