



June 28, 2018

Dear Senator,

We, the undersigned, are members of Issue One's ReFormers Caucus — a coalition of former members of Congress, Cabinet officials and governors representing all fifty states — writing to strongly urge you to co-sponsor the bipartisan, bicameral Honest Ads Act. The bill is a carefully crafted first step to address foreign meddling in U.S. politics. The Honest Ads Act is also the first bill created in response to outside interference in the 2016 elections.

There is encouraging widespread agreement: The Intelligence Community Assessment and both the House and Senate Intelligence Committees concur that foreign actors interfered in the 2016 U.S. elections through the use of paid, online advertisements on some of the largest internet platforms — all to divide Americans and weaken the country. These ads — some of which were paid for in rubles — targeted certain American voters in an attempt to sow discord and manipulate our political system. It is imperative that Congress act now in response to this national security crisis created by Russia and other non-state actors in order to protect our free and fair elections from foreign intrusions in the future.

For decades, disclosure rules governing political advertising in print, radio and television have improved transparency and accountability by providing American consumers with vital information. While rules involving these types of media have proven successful, hardly any disclosure rules exist for the digital frontier and online advertisements. The Honest Ads Act simply seeks to update our 20th century laws and requires similar disclosure requirements as television and radio advertisements.

In the 115th Congress, more than a dozen House Republicans and Democrats have already endorsed the Honest Ads Act introduced as H.R. 4077 by Rep. Derek Kilmer (D-WA) and Rep. Mike Coffman (R-CO) and S.1989 by Senator Amy Klobuchar (D-MN), Senator Mark Warner (D-VA) and Senator John McCain (R-AZ). Key leaders in the technology industry, **including Facebook, Twitter, Microsoft and IBM**, have all also publicly endorsed this legislation. The Honest Ads Act would require the largest online platforms — such as social networks, ad networks or search engines like Facebook, Twitter or Google — to obtain and publicly disclose basic information from the purchasers of paid, online political advertising, including the name of the individual



or group, the rate charged, a description of the targeted audience and the date and time the advertisement was first displayed.

Since the Honest Ads Act mirrors the disclosure requirements of political television and radio ads, it would not restrict political advertising on the internet nor would it infringe upon First Amendment rights.

Our national security depends on what actions we take in responding to foreign interference in our democracy. As former elected officials, we understand the weight of your duties and strongly urge you to support the Honest Ads Act to ensure that our elections are more effectively safeguarded. Moreover, this bill sends a powerful signal to foreign actors that we will protect our American democratic process and do so in a united and bipartisan manner.

Respectfully,

Amb. Tim Roemer, *ReFormers Caucus Co-chair*
U.S. House of Representatives (D-IN), 1991-2003
United States Ambassador to India, 2009-2011

Amb. Connie Morella, *ReFormers Caucus Co-chair*
Former Member, U.S. House of Representatives (R-MD), 1987-2003
United States Ambassador to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) in Paris, 2003-2007

Rep. Zach Wamp, *ReFormers Caucus Co-chair*
U.S. House of Representatives (R-TN), 1995-2011

Rep. Chet Atkins
U.S. House of Representatives (D-MA),
1985-1993

Rep. Brian Baird
U.S. House of Representatives (D-WA),
1999-2011

Rep. Les AuCoin
U.S. House of Representatives (D-OR),
1975-1993

Rep. Gresham Barrett
U.S. House of Representatives (R-SC),
2003-2011



Rep. Charles Bass
U.S. House of Representatives (R-NH),
1995-2007, 2011-2013

Rep. Berkley Bedell
U.S. House of Representatives (D-IA),
1975-1987

Sen. Mark Begich
United States Senate (D-AK),
2009-2015

Rep. Doug Bereuter
U.S. House of Representatives (R-NE),
1979-2004

Rep. Don Bonker
U.S. House of Representatives (D-WA),
1975-1989

Sec. Bill Brock
United States Secretary of Labor,
1985-1987 (appointed by President
Ronald Reagan); United States Trade
Representative, 1981-1985 (appointed
by President Ronald Reagan); United
States Senate (R-TN), 1971-1977; U.S.
House of Representatives (R-TN),
1963-1971

Gov. John Carlin
Governor of Kansas (D), 1979-1987

Gov. Arne Carlson
Governor of Minnesota (R), 1991-1999

Rep. Bob Carr
U.S. House of Representatives (D-MI),
1975-1981, 1983-1995

Rep. Ed Case
U.S. House of Representatives (D-HI),
2002-2007

Gov. Michael Castle
U.S. House of Representatives (R-DE),
1993-2011; Governor of Delaware (R),
1985-1992

Rep. John Cavanaugh
U.S. House of Representatives (D-NE),
1977-1981

Rep. Ben Chandler
U.S. House of Representatives (D-KY),
2004-2013

Rep. Bob Clement
U.S. House of Representatives (D-TN),
1987-2003

Rep. Bill Clinger
U.S. House of Representatives (R-PA),
1979-1997

Rep. Jerry Costello
U.S. House of Representatives (D-IL),
(1987-2013)

Rep. Lincoln Davis
U.S. House of Representatives (D-TN),
2003-2011

Rep. Charlie Dent
U.S. House of Representatives (R-PA),
2005-2018

Rep. Charles Djou
U.S. House of Representatives (R-HI),
2010-2011

Sen. Byron Dorgan
United States Senate (D-ND),
1992-2011; U.S. House of
Representatives (D-ND), 1981-1993

Sen. Dave Durenberger
United States Senate (R-MN),
1977-1995

Rep. Dave Emery
U.S. House of Representatives (R-ME),
1975-1983

Rep. Vic Fazio
U.S. House of Representatives (D-CA),
1979-1999

Rep. Martin Frost
U.S. House of Representatives (D-TX),
1979-2005

Rep. Dick Gephardt
U.S. House of Representatives (D-MO),
1977-2005

Rep. Jim Gerlach
U.S. House of Representatives (R-PA),
2003-2015

Rep. Wayne Gilchrest
U.S. House of Representatives (R-MD),
1991-2009

Sec. Dan Glickman
United States Secretary of Agriculture,
1995-2001 (appointed by President Bill
Clinton); U.S. House of Representatives
(D-KS), 1977-1995

Rep. Jim Greenwood
U.S. House of Representatives (R-PA),
1993-2005

Sec. Chuck Hagel
United States Secretary of Defense
2013-2015 (appointed by President
Barack Obama); United States Senate
(R-NE) 1997-2009

Rep. Lee Hamilton
Vice Chair, United States 9/11
Commission, 2002-2004 (appointed by
President George W. Bush); U.S. House of
Representatives (D-IN), 1965-1999

Rep. Richard Hanna
U.S. House of Representatives (R-NY),
2011-2017

Sen. Gary Hart
United States Special Envoy for
Northern Ireland, 2014-2017 (appointed
by President Barack Obama); United
States Senate (D-CO), 1975-1987

Rep. Dennis Hertel
U.S. House of Representatives (D-MI),
1981-1993

Rep. Paul Hodes
U.S. House of Representatives (D-NH),
2007-2011

Rep. Rush Holt
U.S. House of Representatives (D-NJ),
1999-2015

Rep. Liz Holtzman
U.S. House of Representatives (D-NY),
1973-1981

Rep. Jerry Huckaby
U.S. House of Representatives (D-LA),
1977-1993

Rep. Bob Inglis
U.S. House of Representatives (R-SC),
1993-1999, 2005-2011

Rep. Steve Israel
U.S. House of Representatives (D-NY),
2001-2017

Amb. Jim Jones
United States Ambassador to Mexico,
1993-1997 (appointed by President Bill
Clinton); U.S. House of Representatives
(D-OK), 1973-1987

Rep. Barbara Kennelly
U.S. House of Representatives (D-CT),
1981-1999

Gov. Bob Kerrey
United States 9/11 Commission,
2002-2004 (appointed by President
George W. Bush); United States Senate
(D-NE), 1989-2001; Governor of
Nebraska (D), 1983-1987

Rep. Jim Kolbe
U.S. House of Representatives (R-AZ),
1985-2007

Rep. Mike Kopetski
U.S. House of Representatives (D-OR),
1991-1995

Amb. Madeleine Kunin
United States Ambassador to
Switzerland, 1996-1999 (appointed by
President Bill Clinton); Governor of
Vermont (D), 1985-1991

Rep. Steve Kuykendall
U.S. House of Representatives (R-CA),
1999-2001

Gov. Richard Lamm
Governor of Colorado (D), 1975-1987

Rep. Martin (Harold) Lancaster
U.S. House of Representatives (D-NC),
1987-1995

Sen. Mary Landrieu
United States Senate (D-LA),
1997-2015

Rep. Larry LaRocco
U.S. House of Representatives (D-ID),
1991-1995

Rep. John LeBoutillier
U.S. House of Representatives (R-NY),
1981-1983

Sen. Carl Levin
United States Senate (D-MI), 1979-2015

Rep. Mel Levine
U.S. House of Representatives (D-CA),
1983-1993

Sen. Blanche Lincoln
United States Senate (D-AR),
1999-2011; U.S. House of
Representatives (D-AR), 1993-1997

Sen. Dick Lugar
United States Senate (R-IN), 1977-2013

Rep. Andy Maguire
U.S. House of Representatives (D-NJ),
1975-1981

Rep. Marjorie Margolies-Mezvinsky
U.S. House of Representatives (D-PA),
1993-1995

Rep. Pete McCloskey
U.S. House of Representatives (R-CA),
1967-1983

Rep. Matthew McHugh
U.S. House of Representatives (D-NY),
1975-1993

Sec. John McHugh
United States Secretary of the Army,
2009-2015 (appointed by President
Barack Obama); U.S. House of
Representatives (R-NY), 1993-2009

Gov. John McKernan
Governor of Maine (R), 1987-1995; U.S.
House of Representatives (R-ME),
1983-1987

Rep. Tom McMillen
U.S. House of Representatives (D-MD),
1987-1993

Rep. Jim Moran
U.S. House of Representatives (D-VA),
1991-2015

Rep. Patrick Murphy
U.S. Under Secretary of the Army, Jan.
2016-Jan. 2017 (appointed by President
Barack Obama); Acting U.S Secretary of
the Army, Jan. 2016-May 2016
(appointed by Barack Obama); U.S.
House of Representatives (D-PA),
2007-2011

Rep. Sue Myrick
U.S. House of Representatives (R-NC),
1995-2013

Rep. Glenn Nye
U.S. House of Representatives (D-VA),
2009-2011

Gov. Deval Patrick
Governor of Massachusetts (D),
2007-2015

Rep. Todd Platts
U.S. House of Representatives (R-PA),
2001-2013

Sen. Larry Pressler
United States Senate (R-SD),
1979-1997; U.S. House of
Representatives (R-SD), 1975-1979

Rep. Reid Ribble
U.S. House of Representatives (R-WI),
2011-2017

Sec. Tom Ridge
United States Secretary of Homeland
Security, 2003-2005 (appointed by
President George W. Bush); Governor
of Pennsylvania (R), 1995-2001; U.S.
House of Representatives (R-PA),
1983-1995



Gov. Bill Ritter
Governor of Colorado (D), 2007-2011

Gov. Roy Romer
Governor of Colorado (D), 1987-1999

Sec. Ed Schafer
United States Secretary of Agriculture,
2008-2009 (appointed by President
Barack Obama); Governor of North
Dakota (R), 1992-2000

Sen. Claudine Schneider
United States Senate (R-RI), 1981-1991

Rep. Patricia Schroeder
U.S. House of Representatives (D-CO),
1973-1997

Rep. Joe Schwarz
U.S. House of Representatives (R-MI),
2005-2007

Rep. Phil Sharp
U.S. House of Representatives (D-IN),
1975-1995

Rep. Karen Shepherd
U.S. House of Representatives (D-UT),
1993-1995

Rep. Gerry Sikorski
U.S. House of Representatives (D-MN),
1983-1993

Sen. Alan Simpson
United States Senate (R-WY),
1979-1997

Rep. David Skaggs
U.S. House of Representatives (D-CO),
1987-1999

Rep. Peter Smith
U.S. House of Representatives (R-VT),
1989-1991

Sen. Olympia Snowe
United States Senate (R-ME),
1995-2013; U.S. House of
Representatives (R-ME) 1979-1995

Rep. Charlie Stenholm
U.S. House of Representatives (D-TX),
1979-2005

Sen. Adlai Stevenson
United States Senate (D-IL), 1973-1981

Amb. Dick Swett
United States Ambassador to Denmark,
1998-2001 (appointed by President Bill
Clinton); U.S. House of Representatives
(D-NH), 1991-1995

Rep. Robin Tallon
U.S. House of Representatives (D-SC),
1983-1993

Rep. John Tanner
U.S. House of Representatives (D-TN),
1989-2011

Rep. Ellen Tauscher
U.S. House of Representatives (D-CA),
1997-2009



Sen. Mark Udall
United States Senate (D-CO),
2009-2015; U.S. House of
Representatives (D-CO), 1999-2009

Rep. Robert Walker
U.S. House of Representatives (R-PA),
1977-1997

Gov. Christine Todd Whitman
Governor of New Jersey (R), 1994-2001

Rep. Pat Williams
U.S. House of Representatives (D-MT),
1979-1997

Sen. Tim Wirth
United States Senate (D-CO),
1987-1993; U.S. House of
Representatives (D-CO), 1975-1987

Gov. Bob Wise
Governor of West Virginia (D),
2001-2005; U.S. House of
Representatives (D-WV), 1983-2001

Rep. Lynn Woolsey
U.S. House of Representatives (D-CA),
1993-2013