

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 6576

To restrict the use of foreign adversary LiDAR in the United States.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 10, 2025

Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Oversight and Government Reform, and Transportation and Infrastructure, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To restrict the use of foreign adversary LiDAR in the United States.

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 Adversaries
5 From Exploiting LiDAR Act of 2025” or the “SAFE
6 LiDAR Act”.

7 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

8 Congress finds the following:

1 (1) LiDAR technologies are critical to the suc-
2 cessful development and deployment of autonomous
3 vehicles, defense systems, critical infrastructure,
4 robotic systems, and advanced manufacturing sys-
5 tems, as well as other important emerging innova-
6 tions.

7 (2) The Chinese Communist Party seeks to
8 dominate LiDAR technologies, which are critical not
9 only for military advancements, but to the People’s
10 Republic of China’s broader efforts to undermine the
11 national security of the United States.

12 (3) Foreign adversary dominance of LiDAR
13 technologies, and the widespread use of such tech-
14 nologies in the United States, creates profound op-
15 portunities for such adversaries to engage in espio-
16 nage, technical compromise, and the disruption of
17 sensitive supply chains, presenting an unacceptable
18 threat to our Nation’s security.

19 **SEC. 3. PROHIBITION.**

20 (a) IN GENERAL.—

21 (1) LIMITATION ON FUTURE TRANSACTIONS.—
22 Except as otherwise provided under subsections (b),
23 (c), or (d), beginning on the date that is three years
24 after the date of enactment of this Act, a covered
25 person, or any person knowingly engaging in a

1 transaction with or on behalf of a covered person,
2 shall not engage in a transaction that results in the
3 use of covered foreign adversary light detection and
4 ranging technology in the United States.

5 (2) LIMITATION ON CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE
6 OR FEDERAL GOVERNMENT USE.—Except as other-
7 wise provided under subsections (b), (c), or (d), a
8 critical infrastructure operator or Federal Govern-
9 ment entity shall not use covered foreign adversary
10 light detection and ranging technology in the United
11 States—

12 (A) in the case of a product or system in
13 use by such user prior to the date of enactment
14 of this Act, beginning on the date that is 5
15 years after the date of enactment; or

16 (B) in the case of a product or system not
17 in use by such user on the date of enactment
18 of this Act, beginning on the date of enactment
19 of this Act.

20 (b) WAIVER.—

21 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Commerce
22 may waive the prohibition under—

23 (A) subsection (a)(1) if he determines, on
24 a case-by-case basis that—

1 (i) the issuance of such a waiver is in
2 the national interest of the United States;

3 or

4 (ii) that the failure to issue such waiv-
5 er would—

6 (I) cause undue hardship to a
7 given United States customer or user
8 of a given covered foreign adversary
9 light detection and ranging technology
10 that is disproportionate to the na-
11 tional security benefit achieved
12 through the application of the prohibi-
13 tion; and

14 (II) such waiver is non-renewable
15 and the duration of such waiver does
16 not exceed three years; and

17 (B) subsection (a)(2), on a case-by-case
18 basis, if he determines that the issuance of such
19 a waiver is—

20 (i) in the national security interests of
21 the United States; or

22 (ii) necessary to avoid the cessation of
23 a critical infrastructure or government
24 function, and the operator or entity pro-
25 viding such function enters into a mitiga-

1 tion agreement with the Secretary out-
2 lining a plan for eliminating the prohibited
3 technology or, if elimination is impracti-
4 cable, mitigating the national security risks
5 associated with its continued use.

6 (2) PROCEDURE.—Not later than the effective
7 date of any prohibition under this Act, the Secretary
8 of Commerce shall establish procedures and regula-
9 tions governing the issuance of waivers under this
10 subsection.

11 (c) EXEMPTIONS.—

12 (1) IN GENERAL.—The prohibitions under sub-
13 section (a) shall not apply in the case of—

14 (A) testing, evaluation, or cybersecurity ac-
15 tivities by or on behalf of the United States
16 Government;

17 (B) the acquisition of a covered foreign ad-
18 versary light detection and ranging technology
19 for academic or research purposes;

20 (C) the acquisition of a covered foreign ad-
21 versary light detection and ranging technology
22 for purposes of integration into a product man-
23 ufactured, assembled, or otherwise developed in
24 the United States, provided such products are
25 exported outside of the United States and such

1 covered foreign adversary light detection and
2 ranging technology is not used in the United
3 States; or

4 (D) the use of a product, including an air-
5 plane or automobile, containing a covered for-
6 eign adversary light detection and ranging tech-
7 nology in contexts where the principal purpose
8 of such usage is the provision of passenger or
9 cargo transportation services between the
10 United States and a different country.

11 (2) LEGACY PRODUCTS AND SYSTEMS.—The
12 prohibitions under subsection (a)(1) shall not apply
13 in the case of—

14 (A) a discrete product in use within the
15 United States prior to the date on which said
16 prohibition is effective, or any covered foreign
17 adversary light detection and ranging tech-
18 nology subsequently necessary to replace a cov-
19 ered foreign adversary light detection and rang-
20 ing technology in said product; or

21 (B) the resale, lease, or use of any product
22 containing covered foreign adversary light de-
23 tection and ranging technology if such tech-
24 nology was integrated into said discrete product

1 prior to the effective date of a relevant prohibi-
2 tion under this Act.

3 (d) EXTENSION.—

4 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Commerce
5 shall grant a two-year extension of the effective date
6 of the prohibition under subsection (a)(1) in the
7 event that he determines that alternative sources of
8 light detection and ranging technology are produced
9 in an insufficient quantity to meet domestic demand.
10 Following an initial extension, additional extensions
11 of 180 days may be granted, but only upon a de
12 novo finding of the Secretary of Commerce of insuf-
13 ficient alternative supplies prior to the issuance of
14 each such extension.

15 (2) REVIEW.—Any extension under paragraph
16 (1) shall be subject to challenge for factual error in
17 a district court of competent jurisdiction.

18 (e) RULES OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this Act
19 shall be interpreted to—

20 (1) preclude, preempt, or abridge the establish-
21 ment of any other limitation or restriction on cov-
22 ered foreign adversary light detection and ranging
23 technology established under other authorities, in-
24 cluding but not limited to such limitations or restric-
25 tions that may be promulgated pursuant to State

1 law or existing or future authorities of the Secretary
2 of Commerce or the Office of Information and Com-
3 munications Technology and Services;

4 (2) permit an existing joint venture, licensing
5 agreement, technology partnership, or other com-
6 parable contractual arrangement with a company
7 that produces, designs, or otherwise controls covered
8 foreign adversary light detection and ranging tech-
9 nology to be expanded by means of a prohibited
10 transaction; or

11 (3) prohibit the use of covered foreign adver-
12 sary light detection and ranging technology by a
13 United States person utilizing such technology out-
14 side of the United States.

15 **SEC. 4. LIMITATION ON ADVERSARY PARTNERSHIPS.**

16 (a) IN GENERAL.—

17 (1) LIMITATION.—Except as provided for under
18 subsections (b) or (c), beginning on the date of en-
19 actment of this Act, it shall be unlawful for any cov-
20 ered person, or person knowingly engaging in a
21 transaction with or on behalf of a covered person, to
22 enter into any joint venture, licensing agreement,
23 technology partnership, or other comparable contrac-
24 tual arrangement with a company that produces, de-
25 signs, or otherwise controls covered foreign adver-

1 sary light detection and ranging technology for the
2 purpose of—

3 (A) manufacturing, assembling, or devel-
4 oping light detection and ranging technology
5 that is or is derivative of covered foreign adver-
6 sary light detection and ranging technology for
7 use in the United States;

8 (B) licensing intellectual property of a cov-
9 ered foreign adversary light detection and rang-
10 ing technology for use in products intended to
11 be used in the United States; or

12 (C) facilitating the design, production, or
13 deployment of light detection and ranging tech-
14 nology for use in the United States.

15 (2) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—The limitation
16 described in paragraph (1) shall not be interpreted
17 to limit ventures, agreements, partnerships, or other
18 arrangements that involve the use of covered foreign
19 adversary light detection and ranging technology in
20 the United States for research purposes, or in con-
21 nection with the development, manufacturing, or as-
22 sembly of products that are intended for export and
23 that will not be sold or leased in the United States.

24 (b) EXCEPTION.—Notwithstanding subsection (a), a
25 person, including a covered person, is permitted to—

1 (1) engage in a transaction and enter into an
2 agreement that results in an adversary affiliation
3 termination event with respect to a covered foreign
4 adversary light detection and ranging technology;
5 and

6 (2) fulfill any existing responsibilities or obliga-
7 tions under any joint venture, licensing agreement,
8 technology partnership, or other comparable contrac-
9 tual arrangement established prior to the date of en-
10 actment of this Act, except in the case of such a
11 venture, agreement, partnership, or other arrange-
12 ment that was entered into with the intent of frus-
13 trating a material purpose of this Act.

14 (c) PRESUMPTION.—A joint venture, licensing agree-
15 ment, technology partnership, or other comparable con-
16 tractual arrangement described under subsection (a)(1)
17 shall be presumed to be intended to frustrate a material
18 purpose of this Act if entered into during the 180-day pe-
19 riod immediately preceding the date of enactment of this
20 Act, except as otherwise demonstrated by a preponderance
21 of the evidence.

22 **SEC. 5. ENFORCEMENT.**

23 (a) ENFORCEMENT OF PROHIBITIONS.—

24 (1) CIVIL PENALTY.—Any covered person who
25 violates, attempts to violate, conspires to violate, or

1 causes any knowing violation of section 3(a) shall be
2 subject to a civil penalty not to exceed the amount
3 set forth under section 1705 of title 50, United
4 States Code.

5 (2) INJUNCTIVE RELIEF.—The Secretary of
6 Commerce may seek a declaratory judgment requir-
7 ing any person (including, but not limited to, a cov-
8 ered person or a critical infrastructure operator)
9 who violates, attempts to violate, conspires to vio-
10 late, or causes any violation of section 3 to cease,
11 unwind, or otherwise terminate any violative trans-
12 action, use, or action in furtherance of the foregoing.
13 Such an action may be brought in any district court
14 of competent jurisdiction or the district court for the
15 District of Columbia.

16 (b) ENFORCEMENT OF LIMITATION.—Any joint ven-
17 ture, licensing agreement, technology partnership, or com-
18 parable contractual arrangement in violation of section 4
19 may be blocked, unwound, or otherwise prohibited.

20 (c) PROCEDURE.—Prior to any enforcement action
21 under this Act, the Secretary of Commerce shall provide
22 the violating party with a written explanation of the viola-
23 tive conduct specifying the laws and regulations allegedly
24 violated and the amount or nature of the proposed penalty
25 or action, and notifying the recipient of a right to make

1 a written petition within 30 days as to why a penalty
2 should not be imposed or such action should not be under-
3 taken.

4 (d) NON-EXCLUSIVITY OF REMEDIES.—Nothing in
5 this section shall be interpreted to limit or abridge such
6 other enforcement authorities of the Federal Government
7 that may exist pursuant to other authorities.

8 **SEC. 6. TRANSITION MITIGATION.**

9 (a) ASSISTANCE TO CUSTOMERS AND USERS.—

10 (1) PROGRAM.—Not later than 90 days after
11 the date of enactment, the Secretary of Commerce
12 shall establish and thereafter maintain a program
13 to—

14 (A) conduct outreach to stakeholders to fa-
15 cilitate compliance with this Act;

16 (B) issue guidance on compliance, and in-
17 corporate feedback from end users impacted by
18 the Act into such guidance; and

19 (C) establish procedures for entities to
20 seek waivers or clarifications under this Act.

21 (2) AUTONOMOUS VEHICLE AND ROBOTICS EX-
22 PERTISE.—The Secretary of Commerce shall des-
23 ignate not less than two individuals, one of whom
24 must have substantial expertise in autonomous driv-
25 ing systems and one of whom must have substantial

1 expertise in robotics, responsible for accepting and
2 reviewing petitions by customers or users of covered
3 foreign adversary light detection and ranging tech-
4 nology that develop products that incorporate such
5 technology who contend that their development or
6 production of such product is dependent on contin-
7 ued access to the prohibited technology, and to—

8 (A) determine whether such contentions
9 are supported by technical evidence, and if so
10 proven, whether a waiver of such prohibition
11 would be in the national interest of the United
12 States; and

13 (B) suggest technical benchmarks or other
14 indicators that would warrant a rescission or ex-
15 tension of such a waiver.

16 (b) **ADVISORY OPINIONS.**—Upon petition of a cus-
17 tomer or user likely to be impacted by this Act, the Sec-
18 retary of Commerce shall issue advisory opinions regard-
19 ing whether their continued use of covered foreign adver-
20 sary light detection and ranging technology is likely to
21 warrant a waiver under this Act, which shall be provided
22 to such a customer or user not later than 180 days after
23 the submission of such a request.

24 (c) **NATIONAL SECURITY TASK FORCE.**—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after
2 the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary
3 shall establish and thereafter maintain a task force
4 to address the national security risks associated with
5 covered foreign adversary light detection and rang-
6 ing technology—

7 (A) that remains in use following the effec-
8 tive dates of prohibitions under this Act, wheth-
9 er by means of waiver, exemption, extension, or
10 violation; or

11 (B) that is in use during the period of time
12 following the date of enactment and the rel-
13 evant effective dates of prohibitions under this
14 Act.

15 (2) MANDATE.—The task force shall—

16 (A) engage with customers and users of
17 covered foreign adversary light detection and
18 ranging technology regarding national security
19 risks and potential partial mitigation measures;
20 and

21 (B) work with appropriate elements of the
22 Intelligence Community and law enforcement
23 to, in appropriate instances, share information
24 with such customers and users regarding na-
25 tional security risks associated with their use of

1 foreign adversary light detection and ranging
2 technology.

3 **SEC. 7. DEFINITIONS.**

4 (a) ADVERSARY AFFILIATION TERMINATION
5 EVENT.—

6 (1) CRITERIA.—The term “adversary affiliation
7 termination event” shall refer to a transaction and
8 agreement that constitutes a full and absolute di-
9 vestment of any interest in a foreign adversary light
10 detection and ranging technology, or full and abso-
11 lute sale of any interest in a company that controls
12 such technology, provided such transaction and
13 agreement—

14 (A) is approved by the Secretary of Com-
15 merce pursuant to paragraph (2);

16 (B) results in a person or group of persons
17 who are not affiliated with a foreign adversary
18 country (whether by domicile, citizenship, prin-
19 cipal place of business, or otherwise) obtaining
20 full control over the corresponding technology,
21 or as applicable, company;

22 (C) eliminates any national security threat
23 associated with such technology, including the
24 transmission of any data collected or processed

1 by the technology to a foreign adversary coun-
2 try; and

3 (D) results in a full transfer of any intel-
4 lectual property in such technology to a person
5 in the United States or a country otherwise des-
6 ignated as a trusted partner of the United
7 States pursuant to a notice and comment rule-
8 making of the Secretary of Commerce, except to
9 the extent such a designation would contradict
10 subsection (e).

11 (2) APPROVAL.—The Secretary of Commerce
12 shall only issue an approval under the preceding
13 paragraph if the petitioning applicant demonstrates
14 by clear and convincing evidence that the cor-
15 responding termination event eliminates the national
16 security threat associated with such technology and
17 results in full control of such technology, including
18 any intellectual property or data collected or proc-
19 essed by the technology, by persons not affiliated
20 with a foreign adversary country.

21 (3) REVIEW.—Any determination of the Sec-
22 retary of Commerce under paragraph (2) may be
23 challenged in a district court of competent jurisdic-
24 tion by an impacted party, including a company, or

1 any shareholder thereof, that operates in a similar
2 or related business as a petitioning party.

3 (b) COVERED PERSON.—

4 (1) IN GENERAL.—The term “covered person”
5 shall refer to any person that directly or indirectly
6 engages in commerce or other activities that facili-
7 tate commerce—

8 (A) related to light detection and ranging
9 technology;

10 (B) related to products, services, or infra-
11 structure that contain, may contain, incor-
12 porate, or facilitate the production or develop-
13 ment of such technology; or

14 (C) that routinely utilizes light detection
15 and ranging technology, or routinely utilizes
16 products or services that contain, may contain,
17 incorporate, or facilitate the production or de-
18 velopment of such technology, in their ordinary
19 course of business.

20 (2) LIMITATION.—The term “covered person”
21 shall not be interpreted to include a natural person
22 that utilizes a product containing covered foreign ad-
23 versary light detection and ranging technology for
24 personal or incidental business purposes, without the

1 intent to circumvent or otherwise abridge a material
2 purpose of this Act.

3 (3) EVASION.—The term “covered person”
4 shall be interpreted to include any corporate or other
5 structure established or operated with the primary
6 intent of circumventing a material purpose of this
7 Act.

8 (c) COVERED FOREIGN ADVERSARY LIGHT DETEC-
9 TION AND RANGING TECHNOLOGY.—

10 (1) IN GENERAL.—The term “covered foreign
11 adversary light detection and ranging technology”
12 shall refer to any sensor, system, hardware, soft-
13 ware, or integrated component that uses light detec-
14 tion and ranging to collect, process, or interpret en-
15 vironmental data, including by means of a pulsed or
16 modulated laser, if such technology was developed,
17 distributed, and manufactured by—

18 (A) a foreign person that is domiciled in,
19 is headquartered in, has its principal place of
20 business in, or is organized under the laws of
21 a foreign adversary country;

22 (B) an entity with respect to which a for-
23 eign person or combination of foreign persons
24 described in subparagraph (A) directly or indi-
25 rectly own at least a 25 percent stake; or

1 (C) a person subject to the direction or
2 control of a foreign person or entity described
3 in subparagraph (A) or (B).

4 (2) EXCEPTION.—The term “covered foreign
5 adversary light detection and ranging technology”
6 does not include a technology that no longer con-
7 stitutes a foreign adversary light detection and rang-
8 ing technology as a result of an adversary affiliation
9 termination event.

10 (d) CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE OPERATOR.—

11 (1) IN GENERAL.—The term “critical infra-
12 structure operator” shall refer to any operator, or
13 contractor acting on behalf of an operator, of critical
14 infrastructure as such term is interpreted by the
15 Secretary of Commerce pursuant to the public notice
16 required under paragraph (2).

17 (2) PUBLIC NOTICE.—Not less than annually,
18 the Secretary of Commerce shall publish a docu-
19 ment, using the definition provided for under section
20 5195c(e) of title 42, United States Code, describing
21 the sectors or, as appropriate, functions that are
22 considered critical infrastructure for purposes of this
23 Act.

24 (3) MINIMUM REQUIRED SECTORS.—The an-
25 nual document required under paragraph (2), with-

1 out prejudice to such other sectors or functions that
2 the Secretary of Commerce may designate, shall in
3 all cases include—

4 (A) the operation or inspection of water,
5 wastewater, power, or other electric utilities or
6 related generation or transmission infrastruc-
7 ture;

8 (B) the use of digital technology, data, and
9 connected systems to coordinate municipal or
10 other similar functions, including the operation
11 of systems commonly known as smart city sys-
12 tems or systems to regulate traffic or other re-
13 lated functions; or

14 (C) the operation or inspection of an air-
15 port, seaport, railway, or other transportation
16 asset.

17 (e) FOREIGN ADVERSARY COUNTRY.—The term
18 “foreign adversary country” means the People’s Republic
19 of China, the Russian Federation, the Islamic Republic
20 of Iran, and the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea.

21 **SEC. 8. REPORTING REQUIREMENT.**

22 Not later than one year after the date of enactment
23 of this Act, and annually thereafter, the Secretary of Com-
24 merce shall submit a report to Congress, which may con-
25 tain a classified annex, that describes—

1 (1) all regulatory or enforcement actions under-
2 taken pursuant to the Act;

3 (2) any waivers granted under the Act, includ-
4 ing identifying information regarding the products
5 and persons subject to such waivers;

6 (3) emerging national security threats related
7 to light detection and ranging technology; and

8 (4) any efforts of the People's Republic of
9 China, or an entity based therein, to circumvent or
10 otherwise frustrate a material purpose of this Act.

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