

Presidential Library Anti-Corruption Act of 2025

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In May 2025, President Trump announced that he would accept a free luxury jet worth around [\\$400 million](#) from the government of Qatar, and that the gift would subsequently be donated to his Presidential Library after he leaves office. Observers feared that President Trump could even take the plane from his Library for his personal use, and that Qatar may use the extravagant gift to extract policy favors from the Trump administration. President Trump reportedly also plans to funnel multi-million-dollar payments for [Mar-a-Lago dinners](#), [settlements](#) with media organizations (including [Paramount](#)), leftover [inaugural committee](#) donations from corporations, and more to his Presidential Library. Other presidents, including Presidents Bill [Clinton](#) and George W. [Bush](#), have also faced scrutiny over suspicious Library donations while in office.

Unlike donations to presidential campaigns or inaugural committees, there are virtually no restrictions on donations to Presidential Libraries. Even while still in office, Presidents can solicit unlimited, undisclosed donations from anyone — including foreign nationals, lobbyists, federal contractors, individuals seeking presidential pardons, and corporations with business before federal agencies — for their Libraries. Allowing wealthy donors that may seek policy benefits from a sitting President to bankroll the President's legacy raises serious ethical concerns. Presidential Libraries should be monuments to history, not backdoor vehicles for influence.

The Presidential Library Anti-Corruption Act would close the loopholes that allow Presidential Libraries to be used as tools for corruption. Specifically, the bill would:

- **Delay fundraising to start after the President leaves office, with a carveout for nonprofits:** Require that Presidential Libraries wait until the President leaves office before fundraising or accepting donations, except from 501(c)(3) organizations (mirroring the [standard](#) adopted by the Obama Foundation).
- **Establish a contribution cap:** For 501(c)(3) organizations that can donate while a president is still in office, limit donations to \$10,000 total.
- **Impose a cooling-off period for donations from foreign nationals, lobbyists, contractors, individuals seeking pardons:** For an additional 2 years after the President leaves office, prohibit donations from foreign nationals or foreign governments, registered lobbyists, federal contractors, and individuals seeking presidential pardons.
- **Ban conversion of donations to personal use:** Bar the use of Library donations for personal expenses or unrelated financial obligations.
- **Mandate quarterly disclosures:** During the President's time in office and for 5 years after, require all donations of \$200 or more to be disclosed to the National Archives each calendar quarter. Publish donor information (including name, employer, and date and amount of the donation) online in a searchable, downloadable format.
- **Prohibit straw donations:** Make it illegal to donate in someone else's name, or to knowingly allow your name to be used for a straw donation.

The bill is endorsed by: Project On Government Oversight (POGO), Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington (CREW), Democracy Defenders Action (DDA), Campaign Legal Center (CLC), Freedom of the Press Foundation, Public Citizen, Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations, Demand Progress, American Governance Institute