

November 11, 2025

To:

Senate Committee on the Judiciary  
226 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510  
[judiciarycommittee@scc.senate.gov](mailto:judiciarycommittee@scc.senate.gov)

House Committee on Oversight and Accountability  
2157 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515  
[oversightcommittee@mail.house.gov](mailto:oversightcommittee@mail.house.gov)

The Honorable Chuck Grassley — Chair, Senate Judiciary Committee  
135 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510  
[chuck\\_grassley@grassley.senate.gov](mailto:chuck_grassley@grassley.senate.gov)

The Honorable Ted Cruz — Member, Senate Judiciary Committee  
127A Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable James Comer — Chair, House Committee on Oversight and Accountability  
2157 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Re: Proposal for a Transparency in Political Demonstrations Act

Dear Members of Congress,

The right to peacefully assemble is one of America's most sacred constitutional protections. Protests have long advanced justice and reform—but in recent years, we've seen the line between authentic civic expression and paid political manipulation blur beyond recognition.

Across the country, peaceful activism has too often been replaced by coordinated influence campaigns. Most concerningly, many of these campaigns result either intentionally or unintentionally in violence, property destruction, and the mass disruption of American cities through unpermitted road closures.. While these demonstrations are branded as “grassroots,” evidence increasingly shows large-scale organization and financing behind them, often routed through opaque nonprofit networks designed to conceal true funders—some of whom may be foreign entities with nefarious intentions.

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## Why a Transparency in Political Demonstrations Act Is Needed

Billions of dollars flow through advocacy organizations each year with minimal public disclosure of how those funds are used to stage political demonstrations. Unlike political advertising, which requires donor transparency, protest activity operates in a regulatory blind spot—even when it’s clearly designed to sway public perception or pressure lawmakers.

I am urging Congress to enact a Transparency in Political Demonstrations Act—a bipartisan effort to protect free speech while ensuring accountability and safety.

This act would:

- Require disclosure of funding sources behind demonstrations exceeding a defined participation threshold.
- Establish a Public Accountability Portal where highly funded and heavily attended protest operations must disclose sponsors and subcontractors involved in planning, staffing, or logistics.
- Ensure foreign entities and intermediaries cannot covertly fund or coordinate demonstrations intended to destabilize domestic institutions.
- Hold funders and organizers to a strict non-violence standard, disqualifying organizations that promote or tolerate violence from certain federal benefits or nonprofit protections.

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## Evidence of Coordinated, Funded Activism

Recent high-profile demonstrations—ranging from the ICE and Tesla protests to the *No Kings* and *Hands Off* movements—have shown alarming coordination and escalation. While the goals differ, the tactics and participants often overlap: centrally produced signage, simultaneous mobilization across multiple states, and professional logistics support inconsistent with spontaneous activism. Both the anti-Tesla and anti-ICE protests were marked by mass displays of illegal activities—from burning Teslas and vandalizing dealerships to obstructing ICE vehicles and endangering officers. If wealthy interests are funding these activities, they must be held accountable.

Further, internal documentation and public disclosures reviewed by our team demonstrate that multiple organizations repeatedly appear as sponsors or partners across several nationwide protest campaigns. The same entities—ranging from major PACs to political nonprofits—were involved in at least three major demonstrations this year. Such repetition indicates coordination, not coincidence.

This pattern aligns with the “Russian doll” structure of dark-money funding: money moves through layers of nonprofits, each masking the prior donor. The result is a protest industry where true funders remain invisible while violence and chaos spill into the streets.

*(See Exhibit A: Sponsorship Overlap Chart – April 5, May 5, and June 14 Protests)*

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## Independent Verification and Public Evidence

Independent reporting by Asra Nomani — published by [Fox News](#) and supported by the publicly available [Pearl Project Protest Industry Database](#) — documents how nearly 200 nonprofit organizations with a combined \$2.1 billion in annual revenues coordinated the June 14 No Kings demonstrations across all 50 states.

The dataset, which includes over 70 state-level Democratic Party affiliates and dozens of aligned activist networks such as Indivisible and Jewish Voice for Peace, confirms that these events were part of a centrally orchestrated campaign, not an organic uprising.

Our internal analysis (Exhibit A) independently confirms these patterns. As professionals in the protest staffing and logistics industry, we directly received multiple offers tied to similar dates, slogans, and coordination requests — further evidence that these protests were systematically planned rather than spontaneous.

(See Exhibit B: Pearl Project Protest Industry Database – Public Source, Asra Nomani)

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## Defining Political Demonstrations

For the purposes of this act, a “political demonstration” should be defined as:

*Any organized public event, rally, march, sit-in, or protest activity designed to influence government policy, corporate decision-making, or public perception of political issues—regardless of whether the organizers identify as partisan.*

This includes demonstrations surrounding environmental, corporate, and immigration policy (e.g., Tesla, ICE) as well as explicitly political protests (e.g., *Hands Off, No Kings*).

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## Accountability Without Censorship

This proposal does not restrict speech—it strengthens it. Protesters must retain full First Amendment protection. However, funders and professional organizers should be held accountable for ensuring non-violent, transparent operations.

Authorities should be trained and encouraged to protect both public safety and free expression, and all government workers—including congressional staff, agency personnel, and contractors—should be required to disclose participation in demonstrations undertaken as part of their employment or lobbying activities.

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## Call to Action

I respectfully request that the Oversight Committee and the Senate Subcommittee on Federal Spending Oversight review this proposal and hold hearings on the financial and organizational structures behind recent mass protests.

I also request the opportunity to meet with committee staff or a potential sponsoring member of Congress to discuss model legislation and implementation logistics.

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## Conclusion

The United States cannot allow free expression to become a loophole for dark-money influence operations or foreign-funded destabilization campaigns. Transparency protects everyone—the activist, the law enforcement officer, and the democratic process itself.

Respectfully,

**Adam Swart**

Founder, *Crowds on Demand*

## Exhibit A

### Evidence of Coordinated Funding


The attached chart (Appendix A) documents overlapping sponsors across three major national demonstrations this year — April 5 (#HandsOff), May 5, and June 14 (#NoKings).

Repeated participation by the same PACs and nonprofits—many of them tax-exempt—shows a pattern of centrally funded activism that contradicts claims of spontaneous civic uprisings.

	A	D	25	N	L	VI
1	Logo	Parent Organization	wn	4/5/25 #HandsOff	5/5/25 Protest	6/14/25 #NoKings Protest
9		Vote Save America			Sponsor	Partner
10		Friends of Bernie Sanders				Partner
11		Field Team 6		Sponsor	Sponsor	Partner
12		Progressive Change Campaign Committee				Partner
13		Activate America		Sponsor		Partner
14		Veterans for Responsible Leadership				Partner
15		Seneca Project, The				Partner
16		Progressive Democrats of America		Sponsor	Sponsor	Partner
17		Volunteer Blue, sponsored by Together We Elect Political Action Committee.		Sponsor	Sponsor	Partner
18		Climate Hawks Vote Political Action				Partner
19		Hold the Line PAC				Partner
20		Blue Anchor Project				Partner
21		Bluewaveamerica				Partner
22		Force Multiplier		Sponsor	Sponsor	Partner
23		Progress Kentucky			Sponsor	Partner

## Exhibit B: Pearl Project Protest Industry Database (Public Source – Asra Nomani)

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/16GChwHCZHjHuEsLkErMWBcuSqq4L616BjXsHZgZVang/edit?gid=1411194964#gid=1411194964>

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
1	Logo	Parent Organization	Sub Organization		IRS Status (PAC is Political Action Committee)	Annual Revenues (most recently disclosed)	Tax ID Number	Federal Election Commission Number	Financial Source	3/28/25, 4/4/25 #TeslaTakedown	4/5/25 #HandsOff	5/5/25 Protest	6/14/ #NoKings
2	<p>Summary: An estimated 198 groups -- all aligned with the Democratic Party and many enjoying nonprofit status as supposedly "nonpartisan" -- are organizers for the anti-Trump #NoKings nationwide protests scheduled for Saturday, June 14, with total annual revenues of about \$2.1 billion, according to research by the Pearl Project, a nonprofit journalism initiative that is investigating the protest industry.</p> <p>Breakdown:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3 Democratic National Committee organizations are protest "partners."</li> <li>16 political action committees that mostly fund Democratic political candidates, including Friends of Bernie Sanders, Progressive Democrats of America and Vote Blue, with about \$19.4 million in annual revenues</li> <li>18 501(c)(5) Democrati-aligned labor union nonprofits, including lead organizer American Federation of Teachers, with about \$1.1 billion in annual revenues.</li> <li>76 Democratic-aligned 501(c)(4) political nonprofits with about \$734.3 million in annual revenues</li> <li>47 Democratic-aligned 501(c)(3) nonprofits with about \$286.7 in annual revenues</li> <li>38 other Democratic groups with unknown revenues</li> </ul> <p>Total: 198 groups with an estimated \$2.1 billion</p>				<p><b>Contact:</b> Pearl Project Editor-in-chief: Asra Q. Nomani, a former Wall Street Journal reporter asra@asranomani.com 304-685-2189 @AsraNomani on X</p> <p><b>To support this research and contribute to the development of a user-friendly database platform: Please donate here to the Pearl Project, a 501(c)(3) initiative dedicated to investigative journalism in the public interest: <a href="https://asranomani.com/donate">asranomani.com/donate</a>.</b></p>								
3	3 Democratic National Committee Groups												
4		Demoratic National Committee	College Democrats of America		Political Action Committee	\$362	n/a	C00808378	<a href="https://www.opensecrets.org/political-action-committees/pacs/C00808378">https://www.opensecrets.org/political-action-committees/pacs/C00808378</a>			Sponsor	Partn