Common Sense

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Subsidizing Chinese Attacks on American Ideals

February 23, 2021

Should the federal government fund organizations working at the behest of China and the Chinese Communist Party?



Democrats on the House Education and Labor Committee have blocked an amendment sponsored by Representative Elise Stefanik (R-NY) that, in her words, would have banned funding of academic institutions "if they have a partnership with any entity owned or controlled, directly or indirectly, by the government of the

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People's Republic of China or organized under the laws of the Chinese Communist Party."

The entities being referred to are so-called Confucius Institutes, which, in addition to promoting innocuous educational goals, help spread the propaganda of the misnamed CCP. (The Chinese Communist Party should really now be called the Chinazi Party. Post-Mao, the Chinese have stopped trying to communize everything and now permit markets to function to a significant extent — but, as in the fascist Nazi version of totalitarianism, always subject to sweeping interference and oppression.)

The current number of active Confucius Institutes in the U.S. is uncertain, but the National Association of Scholars counts at least 55, including 48 at colleges and universities.

Meanwhile, as part of a freeze on regulations issued toward the end of the Trump administration, President Biden has withdrawn a proposed rule that would have required schools to reveal any ties to Confucius Institutes.

Is it a bad idea to find out which schools are facilitating Chinazi propaganda?

Is it a good idea to directly or indirectly fund Chinazi propaganda?

No and no.

This is Common Sense. I'm Paul Jacob.