Presidential Library Anti-Corruption Act

Presidential Libraries safeguard American history

Your backstage pass

Presidential libraries are a backstage pass to American Presidencies. Containing documents, videos, audio recordings, photographs, physical objects, and other materials, they reveal how and why Presidents made specific decisions that shaped the country. The libraries serve as archives, museums, and a resource for civics education.

Guardians of history

The National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) oversees the 16 libraries in the Presidential Library System. Through its responsibility for Presidential and other government records, NARA safeguards American history. They ensure every American can access information on citizens' rights, the decisions of their government, and the American experience throughout history.

Public accountability

Presidential and other government records belong to all of us. NARA works for every American by preventing private or political control of our historical records. By keeping records open to the public, NARA allows us to learn about and from history, ask tough questions to shape a better future, and hold public officials accountable for their actions.

The threat



Presidential libraries are constructed using non-federal and private dollars. Donations go to non-profits established explicitly for building the libraries and supporting their programs.

Without appropriate safeguards, non-federal funding opens the door for corruption. Private donors and foreign entities can use donations for constructing Presidential libraries as a way to curry favor with Presidential administrations.

This is not a partisan issue.
Past situations suggest the need for guardrails.

$400 million jet from a foreign government accepted while still in office. *(2025)*

Foreign donations solicited. Meetings promised. *(2008)*

$450,000 donated. Pardon granted. *(2001)*

Guardrails on donations

The Presidential Library Anti-Corruption Act adds guardrails to Presidential Library donations.

- **Restrict fundraising** to donations from 501(c)(3) organizations until after the President leaves office.
- **$10,000 cap** to donations while the President holds office.
- **Delay donations for two years** after the President leaves office from foreign nationals and foreign governments, lobbyists, contractors, and those seeking pardons,
- **Ban personal use of donations**,
- **Require quarterly disclosures**,
- **Require disclosure of donor names.**