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Russian Government Rejects Proposal to Fine Officials for Insulting Citizens

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Andrei Lyubimov / Moskva News Agency

The Russian government has rejected a bill that would have introduced fines for officials who exhibit disrespect toward citizens, weeks after lawmakers passed a bill that introduced fines for disrespecting the authorities.

Communist lawmakers introduced the legislation in February, seeking to fine and suspend civil servants for humiliating voters. Around the same time, another bill that criminalized "blatant disrespect" of Russian authorities was swiftly making its way through the State Duma and became law in March.

Related article: Russian Lawmakers Propose Fining Government Officials for Insulting Citizens

The government legislative commission rejected the proposed bill as "unnecessary" due to existing anti-insult laws, the state-run TASS news agency reported on Wednesday.

Public officials across Russia have increasingly made national headlines for being caught on record insulting regular citizens, at times using terms like “excrement” and “riff-raff” to refer to them.

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