

HR 5211

To amend title 17, United States Code, to limit the liability of copyright owners for protecting their works on peer-to-peer networks.

Congress: 107 (2001–2003, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Commerce

Introduced: Jul 25, 2002

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Courts, the Internet, and Intellectual Property.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Courts, the Internet, and Intellectual Property. (Aug 20, 2002)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/107th-congress/house-bill/5211>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Berman, Howard L. [D-CA-26]

Party: Democratic • **State:** CA • **Chamber:** House

Cosponsors (4 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Coble, Howard [R-NC-6]	R · NC		Jul 25, 2002
Rep. Smith, Lamar [R-TX-21]	R · TX		Jul 25, 2002
Rep. Wexler, Robert [D-FL-19]	D · FL		Jul 25, 2002
Rep. Keller, Ric [R-FL-8]	R · FL		Oct 8, 2002

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Judiciary Committee	House	Referred to	Aug 20, 2002

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Commerce

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Amends Federal copyright law to protect a copyright owner from liability in any criminal or civil action for impairing, with appropriate technology, the unauthorized distribution, display, performance, or reproduction of his or her copyrighted work on a publicly accessible peer-to-peer file trading network, if such impairment does not, without authorization, alter, delete, or otherwise impair the integrity of any computer file or data residing on the computer of a file trader.

Denies such liability protection to a copyright owner who does not comply with certain notification requirements or who: (1) impairs the availability within a publicly accessible peer-to-peer file trading network of a computer file or data that does not contain a work in which the owner has an exclusive copyright; (2) causes economic loss to any person other than affected file traders; or (3) causes other economic loss of more than \$50.00 per impairment to the property of the affected file trader.

Conditions a copyright owner's protection from liability upon seven-days' notice to the Department of Justice of the specific technologies intended for use to impair unauthorized distribution, display, performance, or reproduction of a copyrighted work. Requires notice as well, upon request, to an affected file trader or the assignee of an Internet Protocol address used by an affected file trader.

Provides for a cause of action against a copyright owner for wrongful impairment, including an action by the Attorney General for injunctive relief in certain circumstances.

Actions Timeline

- **Aug 20, 2002:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Courts, the Internet, and Intellectual Property.
- **Jul 25, 2002:** Introduced in House
- **Jul 25, 2002:** Introduced in House
- **Jul 25, 2002:** Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR E1395-1396)
- **Jul 25, 2002:** Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary.