

HR 2214

Reduction in Distribution of Spam Act of 2003

Congress: 108 (2003–2005, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Science, Technology, Communications

Introduced: May 22, 2003

Current Status: Subcommittee Hearings Held.

Latest Action: Subcommittee Hearings Held. (Jul 8, 2003)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/108th-congress/house-bill/2214>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Burr, Richard [R-NC-5]

Party: Republican • **State:** NC • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (38 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Cannon, Chris [R-UT-3]	R · UT		May 22, 2003
Rep. Goodlatte, Bob [R-VA-6]	R · VA		May 22, 2003
Rep. Hart, Melissa A. [R-PA-4]	R · PA		May 22, 2003
Rep. Sensenbrenner, F. James, Jr. [R-WI-5]	R · WI		May 22, 2003
Rep. Stearns, Cliff [R-FL-6]	R · FL		May 22, 2003
Rep. Tauzin, W. J. (Billy) [R-LA-3]	R · LA		May 22, 2003
Rep. Upton, Fred [R-MI-6]	R · MI		May 22, 2003
Rep. Brown-Waite, Ginny [R-FL-5]	R · FL		Jun 12, 2003
Rep. Terry, Lee [R-NE-2]	R · NE		Jun 12, 2003
Rep. Wamp, Zach [R-TN-3]	R · TN		Jun 12, 2003
Rep. Barton, Joe [R-TX-6]	R · TX		Jun 19, 2003
Rep. Bilirakis, Michael [R-FL-9]	R · FL		Jun 19, 2003
Rep. Brady, Kevin [R-TX-8]	R · TX		Jun 19, 2003
Rep. Cubin, Barbara [R-WY-At Large]	R · WY		Jun 19, 2003
Rep. Walden, Greg [R-OR-2]	R · OR		Jun 19, 2003
Rep. Blumenauer, Earl [D-OR-3]	D · OR		Jun 25, 2003
Rep. Case, Ed [D-HI-2]	D · HI		Jun 25, 2003
Rep. Foley, Mark [R-FL-16]	R · FL		Jun 25, 2003
Rep. Green, Mark [R-WI-8]	R · WI		Jun 25, 2003
Rep. McHugh, John M. [R-NY-23]	R · NY		Jun 25, 2003
Rep. Smith, Lamar [R-TX-21]	R · TX		Jun 25, 2003
Del. Faleomavaega, Eni F. H. [D-AS-At Large]	D · AS		Jul 9, 2003
Rep. Davis, Jo Ann [R-VA-1]	R · VA		Jul 9, 2003
Rep. Fossella, Vito [R-NY-13]	R · NY		Jul 9, 2003
Rep. Gillmor, Paul E. [R-OH-5]	R · OH		Jul 9, 2003
Rep. Otter, C. L. (Butch) [R-ID-1]	R · ID		Jul 9, 2003
Rep. Vitter, David [R-LA-1]	R · LA		Jul 9, 2003
Rep. Boehlert, Sherwood [R-NY-24]	R · NY		Jul 14, 2003
Rep. Bradley, Jeb [R-NH-1]	R · NH		Jul 14, 2003
Rep. Cunningham, Randy (Duke) [R-CA-50]	R · CA		Jul 14, 2003
Rep. Janklow, William J. [R-SD-At Large]	R · SD		Jul 14, 2003
Rep. Nethercutt, George R., Jr. [R-WA-5]	R · WA		Jul 14, 2003
Rep. Burns, Max [R-GA-12]	R · GA		Jul 17, 2003
Rep. Royce, Edward R. [R-CA-40]	R · CA		Jul 17, 2003
Rep. Gibbons, Jim [R-NV-2]	R · NV		Sep 3, 2003
Rep. Tiahrt, Todd [R-KS-4]	R · KS		Oct 1, 2003
Rep. Shaw, E. Clay, Jr. [R-FL-22]	R · FL		Oct 29, 2003
Rep. Wilson, Joe [R-SC-2]	R · SC		Nov 18, 2003

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Energy and Commerce Committee	House	Referred to	Jul 1, 2003
Judiciary Committee	House	Hearings By (subcommittee)	Jul 8, 2003

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Science, Technology, Communications

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Summary (as of May 22, 2003)

Reduction in Distribution of Spam Act of 2003 - Prohibits a person from initiating in interstate commerce the transmission of any unsolicited commercial electronic (UCE) mail message unless the message contains: (1) identification as an advertisement or solicitation; (2) notice of an opt-out opportunity, along with a mechanism for doing so; and (3) a valid physical street address of the vendor. Prohibits the transmission of UCE mail: (1) after valid objection; (2) with fraudulent header information; and (3) from illegally harvested email addresses.

Provides a right of enforcement action for: (1) providers of Internet access service; (2) States on behalf of any of their residents; and (3) the Federal Trade Commission (FTC).

Amends the Federal Criminal code to provide criminal penalties for: (1) falsifying the identify of an UCE mail sender; (2) failing to place warning labels on UCE mail containing sexually oriented material; (3) bulk email violations and repeat offenses; and (4) illegal harvesting of email addresses. Provides for enforcement of such penalties through actions by Internet service providers, the Attorney General, and State attorneys general.

Requires the FTC to issue regulations to implement this Act. Requires the FTC and the Federal Communications Commission to report to Congress: (1) regarding the need to protect the rights of users of email to avoid receiving unwanted commercial email; and (2) a detailed analysis of the effectiveness and enforcement of the provisions of this Act.

Actions Timeline

- **Jul 8, 2003:** Subcommittee Hearings Held.
- **Jul 1, 2003:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade and Consumer Protection.
- **Jun 25, 2003:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security.
- **May 22, 2003:** Introduced in House
- **May 22, 2003:** Referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

LegiList

CONGRESS, MADE CLEAR.

Search Every Federal Bill, Law, and Vote

LegiList is the fastest way to research Congress. Track any bill from introduction to enactment, see how every legislator voted, follow committee activity, and read the full text of every bill — all in one place, always up to date.

legilist.com

Free Course: Learn How Congress Actually Works

LegiList Learn is a free, self-paced course that walks through the entire legislative process — from drafting a bill to a presidential signature. Seven modules, plain language, no politics. Earn a certificate when you finish.

legilist.com/learn

Developer API: Build Apps on Legislative Data

The LegiList API gives developers direct access to bills, votes, legislators, committees, and more. Start free with 1,000 requests per day — no credit card required. Upgrade to Pro when you need to scale.

legilist.com/api

Public data belongs to the public. — legilist.com