

HR 4239

Parents' Empowerment Act

Congress: 108 (2003–2005, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Families

Introduced: Apr 28, 2004

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. (May 20, 2004)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/108th-congress/house-bill/4239>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Hunter, Duncan [R-CA-52]

Party: Republican • State: CA • Chamber: House

Cosponsors (2 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Akin, W. Todd [R-MO-2]	R · MO		May 4, 2004
Rep. Ney, Robert W. [R-OH-18]	R · OH		May 13, 2004

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Judiciary Committee	House	Referred to	May 20, 2004

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Families

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Parents' Empowerment Act - Authorizes a minor, through a person acting on the minor's behalf, to obtain relief in a civil action in U.S. district court against anyone who knowingly sells or distributes in interstate or foreign commerce an entertainment product containing material that is harmful to minors if: (1) a reasonable person would expect a substantial number of minors to be exposed to the material; and (2) the minor, as a result of exposure to that material, is likely to suffer personal or emotional injury or injury to mental or moral welfare. Provides for recovery of compensatory and punitive damages.

Declares it to be an affirmative defense to such action that an act of a parent or guardian who owned the entertainment product was the proximate cause of the minor's exposure to the harmful material.

Defines "material that is harmful to minors" as any pornographic communication, picture, image, graphic image file, article, recording, writing, or other pornographic matter of any kind that: (1) is obscene; or (2) violates specified community standards with respect to suitability for minors and lacks sufficient literary, artistic, political, or scientific value to overcome its pernicious effects.

Actions Timeline

- **May 20, 2004:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Courts, the Internet, and Intellectual Property.
- **Apr 28, 2004:** Introduced in House
- **Apr 28, 2004:** Introduced in House
- **Apr 28, 2004:** Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary.