

HR 776

Technological Resource to Assist Criminal Enforcement (TRACE) Act

Congress: 108 (2003–2005, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Crime and Law Enforcement

Introduced: Feb 13, 2003

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security. (Mar 6, 2003)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/108th-congress/house-bill/776>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Andrews, Robert E. [D-NJ-1]

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

Cosponsors (23 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Eshoo, Anna G. [D-CA-14]	D · CA		Feb 13, 2003
Del. Norton, Eleanor Holmes [D-DC-At Large]	D · DC		Feb 27, 2003
Rep. Meehan, Martin T. [D-MA-5]	D · MA		Feb 27, 2003
Rep. Brown, Corrine [D-FL-3]	D · FL		Mar 18, 2003
Rep. Moran, James P. [D-VA-8]	D · VA		Mar 18, 2003
Rep. Woolsey, Lynn C. [D-CA-6]	D · CA		Mar 18, 2003
Rep. Wexler, Robert [D-FL-19]	D · FL		Mar 20, 2003
Rep. Lantos, Tom [D-CA-12]	D · CA		Apr 1, 2003
Rep. Abercrombie, Neil [D-HI-1]	D · HI		Apr 8, 2003
Rep. Hoeffel, Joseph M. [D-PA-13]	D · PA		Apr 29, 2003
Rep. Markey, Edward J. [D-MA-7]	D · MA		Apr 29, 2003
Rep. Lee, Barbara [D-CA-9]	D · CA		Oct 30, 2003
Rep. Frank, Barney [D-MA-4]	D · MA		Nov 4, 2003
Rep. Clay, Wm. Lacy [D-MO-1]	D · MO		Dec 8, 2003
Rep. Owens, Major R. [D-NY-11]	D · NY		Jan 20, 2004
Rep. Shays, Christopher [R-CT-4]	R · CT		Jan 20, 2004
Rep. Grijalva, Raúl M. [D-AZ-7]	D · AZ		Feb 10, 2004
Rep. Lofgren, Zoe [D-CA-16]	D · CA		Feb 25, 2004
Rep. Kucinich, Dennis J. [D-OH-10]	D · OH		Mar 25, 2004
Rep. Berman, Howard L. [D-CA-28]	D · CA		Apr 20, 2004
Rep. Hastings, Alcee L. [D-FL-23]	D · FL		Apr 20, 2004
Rep. Pallone, Frank, Jr. [D-NJ-6]	D · NJ		Apr 20, 2004
Rep. Slaughter, Louise McIntosh [D-NY-28]	D · NY		Apr 27, 2004

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Judiciary Committee	House	Referred to	Mar 6, 2003

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Crime and Law Enforcement

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Summary (as of Feb 13, 2003)

Technological Resource to Assist Criminal Enforcement (TRACE) Act - Amends the Brady Handgun Violence Prevention Act to require a licensed manufacturer or importer of firearms to: (1) test fire manufactured or imported firearms as specified by the Attorney General; (2) prepare ballistics images of the fired bullet and cartridge casings; (3) make the records available to the Attorney General for entry into a computerized database; and (4) store the fired bullet and cartridge casings.

Directs the Attorney General to assist firearm manufacturers and importers in complying with these requirements by: (1) acquiring, installing, and upgrading ballistics equipment and bullet and cartridge casing recovery equipment; (2) hiring or designating sufficient personnel to develop and maintain a ballistics database; (3) providing education about the role of ballistics; and (4) providing for the coordination among law enforcement, regulatory agencies, and the firearm industry to curb firearm-related crime and illegal firearm trafficking.

Requires the Attorney General to: (1) establish a computer system through which State and local law enforcement agencies can promptly access ballistics records; (2) require training for all ballistics examiners; (3) conduct mandatory ballistics testing of all firearms obtained by or in the possession of the Department of Justice; and (4) report to Congress on the implementation of this Act.

Prohibits the use of ballistics information of individual guns for prosecutorial purposes unless officials have a reasonable belief that a crime has been committed and that ballistics information would assist in the investigation.

Actions Timeline

- **Mar 6, 2003:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security.
- **Feb 13, 2003:** Introduced in House
- **Feb 13, 2003:** Introduced in House
- **Feb 13, 2003:** Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary.