

HR 4570

National Security Letter Judicial and Congressional Oversight Act

Congress: 109 (2005–2007, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Law

Introduced: Dec 16, 2005

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

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security. (Feb 16, 2006)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/109th-congress/house-bill/4570>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Harman, Jane [D-CA-36]

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

Cosponsors (12 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Berman, Howard L. [D-CA-28]	D · CA		Dec 16, 2005
Rep. Boswell, Leonard L. [D-IA-3]	D · IA		Dec 16, 2005
Rep. Cramer, Robert E. (Bud), Jr. [D-AL-5]	D · AL		Dec 16, 2005
Rep. Eshoo, Anna G. [D-CA-14]	D · CA		Dec 16, 2005
Rep. Hastings, Alcee L. [D-FL-23]	D · FL		Dec 16, 2005
Rep. Holt, Rush [D-NJ-12]	D · NJ		Dec 16, 2005
Rep. Reyes, Silvestre [D-TX-16]	D · TX		Dec 16, 2005
Rep. Ruppertsberger, C. A. Dutch [D-MD-2]	D · MD		Dec 16, 2005
Rep. Tierney, John F. [D-MA-6]	D · MA		Dec 16, 2005
Rep. Hoyer, Steny H. [D-MD-5]	D · MD		Dec 17, 2005
Rep. Waxman, Henry A. [D-CA-30]	D · CA		Dec 17, 2005
Rep. Conyers, John, Jr. [D-MI-14]	D · MI		Dec 18, 2005

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Financial Services Committee	House	Referred to	Jan 10, 2006
Intelligence (Permanent Select) Committee	House	Referred To	Dec 16, 2005
Judiciary Committee	House	Referred to	Feb 16, 2006

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Law

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Summary (as of Dec 16, 2005)

National Security Letter Judicial and Congressional Oversight Act - Prohibits a national security letter from issuing unless a Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court or a designated U.S. Magistrate Judge finds that: (1) the information sought is relevant to an authorized investigation to protect against international terrorism or clandestine intelligence activities; (2) such an investigation of a U.S. person is not conducted solely upon the basis of activities protected by the first amendment to the Constitution; and (3) there are specific and articulable facts giving reason to believe that the information sought pertains to a foreign power or an agent of a foreign power.

Requires the court established under the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978 (FISA) to establish an electronic system for the submission of documents and other information relating to such proceedings, and for the issuance of orders relating to national security letters.

Expresses the sense of Congress that, in the case of a challenge to a nondisclosure requirement of a national security letter, a certification by the Attorney General or other appropriate head or deputy head of a federal department, agency, or instrumentality that disclosure of such a letter may endanger U.S. national security or interfere with diplomatic relations should not be considered conclusive evidence but only a rebuttable presumption that such disclosure would do so.

Directs the Attorney General to establish minimization and destruction procedures to ensure that information obtained pursuant to a national security letter regarding persons no longer of interest in an authorized investigation is destroyed.

Actions Timeline

- **Feb 16, 2006:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security.
- **Jan 10, 2006:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Financial Institutions and Consumer Credit.
- **Dec 16, 2005:** Introduced in House
- **Dec 16, 2005:** Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committees on Intelligence (Permanent Select), and Financial Services, 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.

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