

HR 841

Continuity in Representation Act of 2005

Congress: 109 (2005–2007, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Congress

Introduced: Feb 16, 2005

Current Status: Read the second time. Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 61.

Latest Action: Read the second time. Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 61.
(Mar 19, 2005)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/109th-congress/house-bill/841>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Sensenbrenner, F. James, Jr. [R-WI-5]

Party: Republican • **State:** WI • **Chamber:** House

Cosponsors (6 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Bartlett, Roscoe G. [R-MD-6]	R · MD		Feb 16, 2005
Rep. Chabot, Steve [R-OH-1]	R · OH		Feb 16, 2005
Rep. Cole, Tom [R-OK-4]	R · OK		Feb 16, 2005
Rep. Dreier, David [R-CA-26]	R · CA		Feb 16, 2005
Rep. Miller, Candice S. [R-MI-10]	R · MI		Feb 16, 2005
Rep. Paul, Ron [R-TX-14]	R · TX		Feb 16, 2005

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Committee on House Administration	House	Reported By	Feb 24, 2005
Judiciary Committee	House	Discharged From	Feb 24, 2005

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Congress

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
109 HRES 125	Procedurally related	Mar 3, 2005: Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.

Continuity in Representation Act of 2005 - (Sec. 2) Amends Federal law concerning the election of Senators and Representatives to require States to hold special elections for the House of Representatives within 49 days after a vacancy is announced by the Speaker of the House in the extraordinary circumstance that vacancies in representation from the States exceed 100. Waives the 49-day requirement if, during the 75-day period beginning on the date of the vacancy announcement, a regularly scheduled general election or another special election for the office involved is to be held.

Requires determination of the candidates who will run in the special election: (1) not later than ten days after the vacancy announcement by the political parties authorized by State law to nominate candidates; or (2) by any other method the State considers appropriate.

Sets forth requirements for judicial review of any action brought for declaratory or injunctive relief to challenge such a vacancy announcement. Requires a final decision within three days of the filing of such an action. Makes a final decision non-reviewable.

Requires a State, in conducting a special election under this Act, to ensure to the greatest extent practicable (including through the use of electronic means) that absentee ballots are transmitted to absent uniformed services voters and overseas voters not later than 15 days after the Speaker of the House announces that the vacancy exists. Requires a State to accept and process any otherwise valid ballot or other election material from an absent uniformed services voter or an overseas voter, as long as the ballot or other material is received by the appropriate State election official not later than 45 days after the State transmits it to the voter.

Applies this Act to the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, American Samoa, Guam, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Actions Timeline

- **Mar 19, 2005:** Read the second time. Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 61.
- **Mar 17, 2005:** Read the first time. Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under Read the First Time.
- **Mar 8, 2005:** Received in the Senate.
- **Mar 3, 2005:** Rule H. Res. 125 passed House.
- **Mar 3, 2005:** Considered under the provisions of rule H. Res. 125. (consideration: CR H953-970; text of measure as reported in House: CR H959)
- **Mar 3, 2005:** Rule provides for consideration of H.R. 841 with 1 hour of general debate. Previous question shall be considered as ordered without intervening motions except motion to recommit with or without instructions. Measure will be considered read. Specified amendments are in order.
- **Mar 3, 2005:** House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union pursuant to H. Res. 125 and Rule XVIII.
- **Mar 3, 2005:** The Speaker designated the Honorable Steven C. LaTourette to act as Chairman of the Committee.
- **Mar 3, 2005:** GENERAL DEBATE - The Committee of the Whole proceeded with 60 minutes of general debate on H.R. 841.
- **Mar 3, 2005:** DEBATE - Pursuant to the provisions of H. Res. 125, the Committee of the Whole proceeded with 10 minutes of debate on the Ney amendment.
- **Mar 3, 2005:** DEBATE - Pursuant to the provisions of H. Res. 125, the Committee of the Whole proceeded with 15 minutes of debate on the Millender-McDonald amendment.
- **Mar 3, 2005:** POSTPONED PROCEEDINGS - At the conclusion of debate on the Millender-McDonald amendment, the Chair put the question on adoption of the amendment and by voice vote, announced that the noes had prevailed. Ms. Millender-McDonald demanded a recorded vote and pursuant to the rule, further proceedings on the question of adoption of the amendment were postponed until later in the legislative day.
- **Mar 3, 2005:** DEBATE - Pursuant to the provisions of H. Res. 125, the Committee of the Whole proceeded with 10 minutes of debate on the Jackson-Lee (TX) amendment.
- **Mar 3, 2005:** POSTPONED PROCEEDINGS - At the conclusion of debate on the Jackson-Lee (TX) amendment, the Chair put the question on adoption of the amendment and by voice vote, announced that the noes had prevailed. Ms. Jackson-Lee (TX) demanded a recorded vote and pursuant to the rule, further proceedings on the question of adoption of the amendment were postponed until later in the legislative day.
- **Mar 3, 2005:** UNFINISHED BUSINESS - The Chair announced that the unfinished business was the question of adoption of amendments which had been debated earlier and on which further proceedings had been postponed.
- **Mar 3, 2005:** Mr. Baird moved to strike the enacting clause.
- **Mar 3, 2005:** Floor summary: DEBATE - The Committee of the Whole proceeded with 10 minutes of debate on the motion to strike the enacting clause.
- **Mar 3, 2005:** Motion to strike the enacting clause withdrawn.
- **Mar 3, 2005:** The House rose from the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union to report H.R. 841.
- **Mar 3, 2005:** The previous question was ordered pursuant to the rule.
- **Mar 3, 2005:** The House adopted the amendment in the nature of a substitute as agreed to by the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.
- **Mar 3, 2005:** Mr. Conyers moved to recommit with instructions to House Administration. (consideration: CR H967-969)
- **Mar 3, 2005:** DEBATE - The House proceeded with ten minutes of debate on the Conyers motion to recommit with instructions. The instructions contained in the motion seek to require the bill to be reported back to the House with an amendment which adds a new paragraph with provisions for minimum required voting systems and poll workers in polling places used in special elections.
- **Mar 3, 2005:** The previous question on the motion to recommit with instructions was ordered without objection.
- **Mar 3, 2005:** On motion to recommit with instructions Failed by recorded vote: 196 - 223 (Roll no. 51).
- **Mar 3, 2005:** On passage. Passed by voice vote.
- **Mar 3, 2005:** Motion to reconsider laid on the table without objection.
- **Mar 3, 2005:** PROCEEDINGS VACATED - By unanimous consent, the proceedings by which the motion to reconsider was laid on the table were vacated and the Chair restated the question on adoption of the bill. Subsequently, Ms. Millender-McDonald demanded a recorded vote on the question of passage of the bill.
- **Mar 3, 2005:** Passed/agreed to in House: On passage Passed by recorded vote: 329 - 68 (Roll no. 52).
- **Mar 3, 2005:** On passage Passed by recorded vote: 329 - 68 (Roll no. 52).

- Mar 3, 2005:** Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
- **Mar 3, 2005:** The title of the measure was amended. Agreed to without objection.
 - **Mar 1, 2005:** Rules Committee Resolution H. Res. 125 Reported to House. Rule provides for consideration of H.R. 841 with 1 hour of general debate. Previous question shall be considered as ordered without intervening motions except motion to recommit with or without instructions. Measure will be considered read. Specified amendments are in order.
 - **Feb 24, 2005:** Reported (Amended) by the Committee on 109-8, Part I.
 - **Feb 24, 2005:** Reported (Amended) by the Committee on 109-8, Part I.
 - **Feb 24, 2005:** Referred sequentially to the House Committee on the Judiciary for a period ending not later than Feb. 24, 2005.
 - **Feb 24, 2005:** Committee on Judiciary discharged.
 - **Feb 24, 2005:** Committee on Judiciary discharged.
 - **Feb 24, 2005:** Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 3.
 - **Feb 17, 2005:** Mr. Ney asked unanimous consent that the Committee on House Administration have until midnight on Feb. 24 to file a report on H.R. 841. Agreed to without objection.
 - **Feb 17, 2005:** Committee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held.
 - **Feb 17, 2005:** Ordered to be Reported (Amended) by Voice Vote.
 - **Feb 16, 2005:** Introduced in House
 - **Feb 16, 2005:** Introduced in House
 - **Feb 16, 2005:** Referred to the House Committee on House Administration.