

HR 5167

Justice for Victims of Torture and Terrorism Act

Congress: 110 (2007–2009, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Law

Introduced: Jan 29, 2008

Current Status: Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Armed Services.

Latest Action: Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Armed Services. (Sep 16, 2008)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/110th-congress/house-bill/5167>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Braley, Bruce L. [D-IA-1]

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

Cosponsors (38 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Carnahan, Russ [D-MO-3]	D · MO		Jan 29, 2008
Rep. Castor, Kathy [D-FL-11]	D · FL		Jan 29, 2008
Rep. Conyers, John, Jr. [D-MI-14]	D · MI		Jan 29, 2008
Rep. Courtney, Joe [D-CT-2]	D · CT		Jan 29, 2008
Rep. Cummings, Elijah E. [D-MD-7]	D · MD		Jan 29, 2008
Rep. Ellison, Keith [D-MN-5]	D · MN		Jan 29, 2008
Rep. Frank, Barney [D-MA-4]	D · MA		Jan 29, 2008
Rep. Gonzalez, Charles A. [D-TX-20]	D · TX		Jan 29, 2008
Rep. Hall, John J. [D-NY-19]	D · NY		Jan 29, 2008
Rep. Hare, Phil [D-IL-17]	D · IL		Jan 29, 2008
Rep. Hirono, Mazie K. [D-HI-2]	D · HI		Jan 29, 2008
Rep. Hooley, Darlene [D-OR-5]	D · OR		Jan 29, 2008
Rep. Jackson-Lee, Sheila [D-TX-18]	D · TX		Jan 29, 2008
Rep. Johnson, Henry C. "Hank," Jr. [D-GA-4]	D · GA		Jan 29, 2008
Rep. Kagen, Steve [D-WI-8]	D · WI		Jan 29, 2008
Rep. Kennedy, Patrick J. [D-RI-1]	D · RI		Jan 29, 2008
Rep. Kilpatrick, Carolyn C. [D-MI-13]	D · MI		Jan 29, 2008
Rep. Lee, Barbara [D-CA-9]	D · CA		Jan 29, 2008
Rep. Miller, George [D-CA-7]	D · CA		Jan 29, 2008
Rep. Moran, James P. [D-VA-8]	D · VA		Jan 29, 2008
Rep. Murphy, Christopher [D-CT-5]	D · CT		Jan 29, 2008
Rep. Perlmutter, Ed [D-CO-7]	D · CO		Jan 29, 2008
Rep. Sarbanes, John P. [D-MD-3]	D · MD		Jan 29, 2008
Rep. Sestak, Joe [D-PA-7]	D · PA		Jan 29, 2008
Rep. Shea-Porter, Carol [D-NH-1]	D · NH		Jan 29, 2008
Rep. Sutton, Betty [D-OH-13]	D · OH		Jan 29, 2008
Rep. Walz, Timothy J. [D-MN-1]	D · MN		Jan 29, 2008
Rep. Welch, Peter [D-VT-At Large]	D · VT		Jan 29, 2008
Rep. Hinchey, Maurice D. [D-NY-22]	D · NY		Feb 6, 2008
Rep. Schakowsky, Janice D. [D-IL-9]	D · IL		Feb 12, 2008
Rep. Wasserman Schultz, Debbie [D-FL-20]	D · FL		Feb 12, 2008
Rep. Grijalva, Raúl M. [D-AZ-7]	D · AZ		Feb 25, 2008
Rep. McGovern, James P. [D-MA-3]	D · MA		Feb 26, 2008
Rep. Woolsey, Lynn C. [D-CA-6]	D · CA		Feb 27, 2008
Rep. Davis, Danny K. [D-IL-7]	D · IL		Mar 14, 2008
Rep. Issa, Darrell E. [R-CA-49]	R · CA		Jul 30, 2008
Rep. Goode, Virgil H., Jr. [R-VA-5]	R · VA		Sep 8, 2008
Rep. Johnson, Sam [R-TX-3]	R · TX		Sep 15, 2008

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Armed Services Committee	Senate	Referred To	Sep 16, 2008
Judiciary Committee	House	Discharged from	Jul 28, 2008

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Law

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Summary (as of Sep 15, 2008)

Justice for Victims of Torture and Terrorism Act - Terminates the authority of the President to grant the government of Iraq immunity from actions by victims of terrorism seeking compensation for injuries caused by officials, employees, or agents of the government of Iraq during the 1991 Gulf War when such government was classified as a state sponsor of terrorism, unless the President certifies to Congress that Iraq has adequately settled specified claims of U.S. soldiers and civilians held in Iraq as POWs and hostages and subject to state-sponsored torture and terrorism.

Provides an exception to the termination of such authority if the President certifies that: (1) Iraq has not compensated any foreign persons or entities for claims or liabilities incurred by or under the control of the Saddam Hussein regime, including commercial or financial claims and claims for acts against individuals similar to those described above; or (2) negotiations are ongoing with Iraq to settle the American claims, and the President believes that those negotiations are being conducted in good faith and could lead to a satisfactory settlement. Limits the latter certification period to 180 days (with authorized renewals by the President).

Defines various adequate settlement amounts, depending on the victim, length of torture or detainment, etc.

Prohibits the use of any U.S. funds to pay any claim covered under this Act.

Actions Timeline

- **Sep 16, 2008:** Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Armed Services.
- **Sep 15, 2008:** Reported (Amended) by the Committee on Judiciary. H. Rept. 110-844.
- **Sep 15, 2008:** Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 545.
- **Sep 15, 2008:** Mr. Scott (VA) moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.
- **Sep 15, 2008:** Considered under suspension of the rules. (consideration: CR H8098-8103)
- **Sep 15, 2008:** DEBATE - The House proceeded with forty minutes of debate on H.R. 5167.
- **Sep 15, 2008:** Passed/agreed to in House: On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended Agreed to by voice vote.(text: CR H8098-8100)
- **Sep 15, 2008:** On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended Agreed to by voice vote. (text: CR H8098-8100)
- **Sep 15, 2008:** Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
- **Sep 15, 2008:** The title of the measure was amended. Agreed to without objection.
- **Jul 30, 2008:** Committee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held.
- **Jul 30, 2008:** Ordered to be Reported (Amended) by Voice Vote.
- **Jul 28, 2008:** Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security Discharged.
- **Feb 25, 2008:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security.
- **Jan 29, 2008:** Introduced in House
- **Jan 29, 2008:** Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary.