

HR 5814

Free Speech Protection Act of 2008

Congress: 110 (2007–2009, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Law

Introduced: Apr 16, 2008

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. (Jun 3, 2008)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/110th-congress/house-bill/5814>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. King, Peter T. [R-NY-3]

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

Cosponsors (14 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Coble, Howard [R-NC-6]	R · NC		May 20, 2008
Rep. Fossella, Vito [R-NY-13]	R · NY		May 20, 2008
Rep. Poe, Ted [R-TX-2]	R · TX		May 20, 2008
Rep. Weiner, Anthony D. [D-NY-9]	D · NY		May 20, 2008
Rep. Myrick, Sue Wilkins [R-NC-9]	R · NC		Jun 3, 2008
Rep. Royce, Edward R. [R-CA-40]	R · CA		Jun 3, 2008
Rep. Broun, Paul C. [R-GA-10]	R · GA		Jun 9, 2008
Rep. Shadegg, John B. [R-AZ-3]	R · AZ		Jun 10, 2008
Rep. Wolf, Frank R. [R-VA-10]	R · VA		Jun 12, 2008
Rep. Israel, Steve [D-NY-2]	D · NY		Sep 8, 2008
Rep. McCotter, Thaddeus G. [R-MI-11]	R · MI		Sep 8, 2008
Rep. Shays, Christopher [R-CT-4]	R · CT		Sep 8, 2008
Rep. Calvert, Ken [R-CA-44]	R · CA		Sep 24, 2008
Rep. Westmoreland, Lynn A. [R-GA-3]	R · GA		Sep 24, 2008

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Judiciary Committee	House	Referred to	Jun 3, 2008

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Law

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
110 S 2977	Related bill	May 6, 2008: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Summary (as of Apr 16, 2008)

Free Speech Protection Act of 2008 - Allows any U.S. person against whom a lawsuit for defamation is brought in a foreign country on the basis of the content of any speech by that person that has been published, uttered, or otherwise disseminated in the United States to bring an action in a U.S. district court against any person who, or entity which, brought the suit, if the speech at issue in the foreign lawsuit does not constitute defamation under U.S. law.

Allows the award of treble damages if it is determined by a preponderance of the evidence that the person or entity bringing the foreign lawsuit intentionally engaged in a scheme to suppress rights under the First Amendment to the Constitution by discouraging publishers or other media from publishing, or by discouraging financial supporters from employing, retaining, or supporting the research, writing, or other speech of an individual.

Actions Timeline

- **Jun 3, 2008:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Courts, the Internet, and Intellectual Property.
- **Apr 16, 2008:** Introduced in House
- **Apr 16, 2008:** Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary.

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