

HR 7296

Midnight Rule Act

Congress: 110 (2007–2009, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Government Operations and Politics

Introduced: Nov 20, 2008

Current Status: Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary.

Latest Action: Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary. (Nov 20, 2008)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/110th-congress/house-bill/7296>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Nadler, Jerrold [D-NY-8]

Party: Democratic • State: NY • Chamber: House

Cosponsors (7 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Lee, Barbara [D-CA-9]	D · CA		Dec 9, 2008
Rep. Lewis, John [D-GA-5]	D · GA		Dec 9, 2008
Rep. McDermott, Jim [D-WA-7]	D · WA		Dec 9, 2008
Rep. Scott, Robert C. "Bobby" [D-VA-3]	D · VA		Dec 9, 2008
Rep. Stark, Fortney Pete [D-CA-13]	D · CA		Dec 9, 2008
Rep. Van Hollen, Chris [D-MD-8]	D · MD		Dec 9, 2008
Rep. Hinchey, Maurice D. [D-NY-22]	D · NY		Dec 10, 2008

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Judiciary Committee	House	Referred To	Nov 20, 2008

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Government Operations and Politics

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Midnight Rule Act - Amends federal civil service law to provide that a midnight rule (i.e., a rule adopted by an agency within the final 90 days a President serves in office) shall not take effect until 90 days after the agency head is appointed by the new President. Makes exceptions if the President serving his final term makes a determination by executive order, and submits written notice to Congress, that the rule should take effect because it is: (1) necessary because of an imminent threat to health or safety or other emergency; (2) necessary for the enforcement of criminal laws; (3) necessary for national security; or (4) issued pursuant to any statute implementing an international trade agreement.

Provides that an exercise by the President of such authority shall have no effect on existing provisions governing congressional disapproval of agency rules.

Authorizes the agency head appointed by the new President to disapprove of a midnight rule (by publishing a statement of disapproval in the Federal Register and sending a notice of disapproval to the congressional committees of jurisdiction) no later than 90 days after being appointed.

Makes this Act applicable to any rule adopted on or after October 22, 2008.

### **Actions Timeline**

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- **Nov 20, 2008:** Introduced in House
- **Nov 20, 2008:** Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary.