

HR 1304

Free Speech Protection Act of 2009

Congress: 111 (2009–2011, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Law

Introduced: Mar 4, 2009

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Courts and Competition Policy.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Courts and Competition Policy. (Aug 19, 2009)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/111th-congress/house-bill/1304>

Sponsor

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

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

Cosponsors (11 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Berkley, Shelley [D-NV-1]	D · NV		Mar 4, 2009
Rep. Broun, Paul C. [R-GA-10]	R · GA		Mar 4, 2009
Rep. Coble, Howard [R-NC-6]	R · NC		Mar 4, 2009
Rep. Franks, Trent [R-AZ-2]	R · AZ		Mar 4, 2009
Rep. Israel, Steve [D-NY-2]	D · NY		Mar 4, 2009
Rep. Myrick, Sue Wilkins [R-NC-9]	R · NC		Mar 4, 2009
Rep. Poe, Ted [R-TX-2]	R · TX		Mar 4, 2009
Rep. Shadegg, John B. [R-AZ-3]	R · AZ		Mar 4, 2009
Rep. Westmoreland, Lynn A. [R-GA-3]	R · GA		Mar 4, 2009
Rep. Wolf, Frank R. [R-VA-10]	R · VA		Mar 4, 2009
Rep. Royce, Edward R. [R-CA-40]	R · CA		Feb 4, 2010

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Judiciary Committee	House	Referred to	Aug 19, 2009

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Law

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
111 S 449	Related bill	Feb 23, 2010: Committee on the Judiciary. Hearings held.

Free Speech Protection Act of 2009 - 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 primarily 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

- **Aug 19, 2009:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Courts and Competition Policy.
- **Mar 4, 2009:** Introduced in House
- **Mar 4, 2009:** Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary.