

## HR 440

### Small Business Liability Reform Act of 2009

**Congress:** 111 (2009–2011, Ended)

**Chamber:** House

**Policy Area:** Law

**Introduced:** Jan 9, 2009

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

**Latest Action:** Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary. (Jan 9, 2009)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/111th-congress/house-bill/440>

## Sponsor

**Name:** Rep. Rehberg, Denny [R-MT-At Large]

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

## Cosponsors

No cosponsors are listed for this bill.

## Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Judiciary Committee	House	Referred To	Jan 9, 2009

## Subjects & Policy Tags

### Policy Area:

Law

## Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

## Summary

(as of Jan 9, 2009)

Small Business Liability Reform Act of 2009 - Allows punitive damages against a small business only if the claimant establishes by clear and convincing evidence that conduct carried out by the defendant with a conscious, flagrant indifference to the rights or safety of others was the proximate cause of the harm that is the subject of the action.

States that in any civil action against a small business: (1) each defendant shall be liable only for the amount of noneconomic loss allocated to that defendant in direct proportion to the percentage of responsibility of that defendant for the harm caused to the plaintiff; and (2) the court shall render a separate judgment against each defendant describing such percentage of responsibility.

Exempts from such liability limitations specified misconduct of a defendant.

## **Actions Timeline**

---

- **Jan 9, 2009:** Introduced in House
- **Jan 9, 2009:** Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary.