

HR 4119

Border Tunnel Prevention Act of 2012

Congress: 112 (2011–2013, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Crime and Law Enforcement

Introduced: Mar 1, 2012

Current Status: Became Public Law No: 112-127.

Latest Action: Became Public Law No: 112-127. (Jun 5, 2012)

Law: 112-127 (Enacted Jun 5, 2012)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/112th-congress/house-bill/4119>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Reyes, Silvestre [D-TX-16]

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

Cosponsors (3 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Dreier, David [R-CA-26]	R · CA		Mar 1, 2012
Rep. Quayle, Benjamin [R-AZ-3]	R · AZ		Mar 1, 2012
Rep. Thompson, Bennie G. [D-MS-2]	D · MS		Mar 1, 2012

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Homeland Security Committee	House	Referred to	Mar 6, 2012
Judiciary Committee	House	Reported By	Mar 21, 2012
Ways and Means Committee	House	Referred to	Mar 5, 2012

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Crime and Law Enforcement

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
112 S 1236	Related bill	Jan 31, 2012: Held at the desk.
112 HR 2264	Related bill	Aug 25, 2011: Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security.

(This measure has not been amended since it was passed by the House on May 16, 2012. The summary of that version is repeated here.)

Border Tunnel Prevention Act of 2012 - Amends the federal criminal code to: (1) subject anyone who attempts or conspires to construct or finance construction of an unauthorized tunnel or subterranean passage that crosses the international border between the United States and another country, or to use such a tunnel for smuggling, to the penalties prescribed for someone who commits such an offense; (2) make such a border tunnel offense a predicate offense for a money laundering violation and for authorization for interception of wire, oral, or electronic communications; and (3) provide for the criminal forfeiture of proceeds of such an offense and the seizure and forfeiture of merchandise introduced into the United States through such a tunnel.

Expresses the sense of Congress that the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) should continue outreach efforts to educate landowners and tenants in areas along the border between Mexico and the United States about cross-border tunnels and seek their assistance in combating tunnel construction.

Requires the Secretary of Homeland Security to submit an annual report describing: (1) cross-border tunnels along the U.S.-Mexico border discovered during the preceding fiscal year; and (2) the needs of DHS to effectively prevent, investigate, and prosecute construction of such tunnels.

Actions Timeline

- **Jun 5, 2012:** Signed by President.
- **Jun 5, 2012:** Became Public Law No: 112-127.
- **May 29, 2012:** Presented to President.
- **May 17, 2012:** Passed/agreed to in Senate: Received in the Senate, read twice, considered, read the third time, and passed without amendment by Unanimous Consent.(consideration: CR S3292)
- **May 17, 2012:** Received in the Senate, read twice, considered, read the third time, and passed without amendment by Unanimous Consent. (consideration: CR S3292)
- **May 17, 2012:** Message on Senate action sent to the House.
- **May 16, 2012:** Considered as unfinished business. (consideration: CR H2744-2745)
- **May 16, 2012:** Passed/agreed to in House: On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended Agreed to by the Yeas and Nays: (2/3 required): 416 - 4 (Roll no. 256).(text: CR 5/15/2012 H2669-2670)
- **May 16, 2012:** On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended Agreed to by the Yeas and Nays: (2/3 required): 416 - 4 (Roll no. 256). (text: CR 5/15/2012 H2669-2670)
- **May 16, 2012:** Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
- **May 15, 2012:** Mr. Smith (TX) moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.
- **May 15, 2012:** Considered under suspension of the rules. (consideration: CR H2669-2673)
- **May 15, 2012:** DEBATE - The House proceeded with forty minutes of debate on H.R. 4119.
- **May 15, 2012:** At the conclusion of debate, the Yeas and Nays were demanded and ordered. Pursuant to the provisions of clause 8, rule XX, the Chair announced that further proceedings on the motion would be postponed.
- **Mar 21, 2012:** Reported by the Committee on Judiciary. H. Rept. 112-418, Part I.
- **Mar 21, 2012:** Committee on Ways and Means discharged.
- **Mar 21, 2012:** Committee on Homeland Security discharged.
- **Mar 21, 2012:** Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 288.
- **Mar 6, 2012:** Committee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held.
- **Mar 6, 2012:** Ordered to be Reported by Voice Vote.
- **Mar 6, 2012:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Border and Maritime Security.
- **Mar 5, 2012:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Trade.
- **Mar 1, 2012:** Introduced in House
- **Mar 1, 2012:** Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, and Homeland Security, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.