

HR 4158

To confirm full ownership rights for certain United States astronauts to artifacts from the astronauts' space missions.

Congress: 112 (2011–2013, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Science, Technology, Communications

Introduced: Mar 7, 2012

Current Status: Became Public Law No: 112-185.

Latest Action: Became Public Law No: 112-185. (Oct 5, 2012)

Law: 112-185 (Enacted Oct 5, 2012)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/112th-congress/house-bill/4158>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Hall, Ralph M. [R-TX-4]

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

Cosponsors (33 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Adams, Sandy [R-FL-24]	R · FL		Mar 7, 2012
Rep. Aderholt, Robert B. [R-AL-4]	R · AL		Mar 7, 2012
Rep. Benishek, Dan [R-MI-1]	R · MI		Mar 7, 2012
Rep. Brooks, Mo [R-AL-5]	R · AL		Mar 7, 2012
Rep. Clarke, Hansen [D-MI-13]	D · MI		Mar 7, 2012
Rep. Costello, Jerry F. [D-IL-12]	D · IL		Mar 7, 2012
Rep. Fudge, Marcia L. [D-OH-11]	D · OH		Mar 7, 2012
Rep. Hultgren, Randy [R-IL-14]	R · IL		Mar 7, 2012
Rep. Johnson, Eddie Bernice [D-TX-30]	D · TX		Mar 7, 2012
Rep. Lipinski, Daniel [D-IL-3]	D · IL		Mar 7, 2012
Rep. Lucas, Frank D. [R-OK-3]	R · OK		Mar 7, 2012
Rep. Olson, Pete [R-TX-22]	R · TX		Mar 7, 2012
Rep. Palazzo, Steven M. [R-MS-4]	R · MS		Mar 7, 2012
Rep. Posey, Bill [R-FL-15]	R · FL		Mar 7, 2012
Rep. Rigell, E. Scott [R-VA-2]	R · VA		Mar 7, 2012
Rep. Rohrabacher, Dana [R-CA-46]	R · CA		Mar 7, 2012
Rep. Sensenbrenner, F. James, Jr. [R-WI-5]	R · WI		Mar 7, 2012
Rep. Smith, Lamar [R-TX-21]	R · TX		Mar 7, 2012
Rep. Akin, W. Todd [R-MO-2]	R · MO		Mar 22, 2012
Rep. Biggert, Judy [R-IL-13]	R · IL		Mar 22, 2012
Rep. Dold, Robert J. [R-IL-10]	R · IL		Mar 22, 2012
Rep. Sessions, Pete [R-TX-32]	R · TX		Mar 22, 2012
Rep. Walsh, Joe [R-IL-8]	R · IL		Mar 22, 2012
Rep. Lofgren, Zoe [D-CA-16]	D · CA		Mar 27, 2012
Rep. Culberson, John Abney [R-TX-7]	R · TX		Apr 25, 2012
Rep. Neugebauer, Randy [R-TX-19]	R · TX		Apr 25, 2012
Rep. Mulvaney, Mick [R-SC-5]	R · SC		Apr 27, 2012
Rep. Quayle, Benjamin [R-AZ-3]	R · AZ		Apr 27, 2012
Rep. Broun, Paul C. [R-GA-10]	R · GA		Jul 9, 2012
Rep. Edwards, Donna F. [D-MD-4]	D · MD		Jul 17, 2012
Rep. McCaul, Michael T. [R-TX-10]	R · TX		Jul 17, 2012
Rep. Cravaack, Chip [R-MN-8]	R · MN		Jul 24, 2012
Rep. Woolsey, Lynn C. [D-CA-6]	D · CA		Jul 31, 2012

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Science, Space, and Technology Committee	House	Referred To	Mar 7, 2012

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Science, Technology, Communications

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Summary (as of Sep 25, 2012)

(This measure has not been amended since it was introduced. The summary of that version is repeated here.)

Grants a U.S. astronaut who participated in any of the Mercury, Gemini, or Apollo programs through the completion of the Apollo-Soyuz Test Project, and who received an artifact during his participation, full ownership of and clear title to that artifact.

Defines "artifact" as any expendable item utilized in missions for the Mercury, Gemini, or Apollo programs through the completion of the Apollo-Soyuz Test Project not expressly required to be returned to the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) at the completion of the mission and other expendable, disposable, or personal-use items utilized by such an astronaut during participation in any such program, excluding lunar rocks and other lunar material.

Prohibits the federal government from having any claim or right to ownership, control, or use of: (1) any artifact in the possession of such an astronaut; or (2) any such artifact that was subsequently transferred, sold, or assigned to a third party by such an astronaut.

Actions Timeline

- **Oct 5, 2012:** Signed by President.
- **Oct 5, 2012:** Became Public Law No: 112-185.
- **Sep 25, 2012:** Presented to President.
- **Sep 24, 2012:** Message on Senate action sent to the House.
- **Sep 22, 2012:** Passed/agreed to in Senate: Passed Senate without amendment by Unanimous Consent.(consideration: CR 9/21/2012 S6671)
- **Sep 22, 2012:** Passed Senate without amendment by Unanimous Consent. (consideration: CR 9/21/2012 S6671)
- **Sep 20, 2012:** Received in the Senate, read twice.
- **Sep 19, 2012:** Mr. Hall moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill.
- **Sep 19, 2012:** Considered under suspension of the rules. (consideration: CR H6086-6088, H6096-6097)
- **Sep 19, 2012:** DEBATE - The House proceeded with forty minutes of debate on H.R. 4158.
- **Sep 19, 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.
- **Sep 19, 2012:** VACATING ORDER FOR YEAS AND NAYS - Mr. Hall asked unanimous consent that the ordering of the yeas and nays on the motion that the House suspend the rules and pass H.R. 4158 be vacated to the end that the Chair put the question de novo. Agreed to without objection.
- **Sep 19, 2012:** Passed/agreed to in House: On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill Agreed to by voice vote.(text: CR H6086)
- **Sep 19, 2012:** On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill Agreed to by voice vote. (text: CR H6086)
- **Sep 19, 2012:** Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
- **Mar 7, 2012:** Introduced in House
- **Mar 7, 2012:** Referred to the House Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.