

HR 5163

Sunshine in the Courtroom Act of 2012

Congress: 112 (2011–2013, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Law

Introduced: Apr 27, 2012

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Courts, Commercial and Administrative Law.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Courts, Commercial and Administrative Law. (May 18, 2012)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/112th-congress/house-bill/5163>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Lungren, Daniel E. [R-CA-3]

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

Cosponsors (3 total)

| Cosponsor | Party / State | Role | Date Joined |
|------------------------------------|---------------|------|--------------|
| Rep. Chabot, Steve [R-OH-1] | R · OH | | Apr 27, 2012 |
| Rep. Deutch, Theodore E. [D-FL-19] | D · FL | | Apr 27, 2012 |
| Rep. Lofgren, Zoe [D-CA-16] | D · CA | | Apr 27, 2012 |

Committee Activity

| Committee | Chamber | Activity | Date |
|---------------------|---------|-------------|--------------|
| Judiciary Committee | House | Referred to | May 18, 2012 |

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Law

Related Bills

| Bill | Relationship | Last Action |
|-------------|--------------|--|
| 112 S 410 | Related bill | Dec 6, 2011: Committee on the Judiciary Subcommittee on Administrative Oversight and the Courts. Hearings held. |
| 112 HR 2802 | Related bill | Aug 25, 2011: Referred to the Subcommittee on Courts, Commercial and Administrative Law. |

Sunshine in the Courtroom Act of 2012 - Authorizes the presiding judge of a U.S. appellate court (including the Supreme Court) or U.S. district court to permit the photographing, electronic recording, broadcasting, or televising to the public of court proceedings over which that judge presides, except when such action would constitute a violation of the due process rights of any party.

Directs: (1) a district court, upon the request of any witness in a trial proceeding other than a party, to order the face and voice of the witness to be disguised or otherwise obscured to render the witness unrecognizable to the broadcast audience of the trial proceeding; and (2) the presiding judge in a trial proceeding to inform each witness who is not a party of the right to make such request.

Authorizes the Judicial Conference to promulgate mandatory guidelines with respect to the management and administration of photographing, recording, broadcasting, or televising described in this Act.

Terminates a district court's authority under this Act two years after enactment of this Act.

Actions Timeline

- **May 18, 2012:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Courts, Commercial and Administrative Law.
- **Apr 27, 2012:** Introduced in House
- **Apr 27, 2012:** Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary.