

## HR 5684

Password Protection Act of 2012

**Congress:** 112 (2011–2013, Ended)

**Chamber:** House

**Policy Area:** Crime and Law Enforcement

**Introduced:** May 9, 2012

**Current Status:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security.

**Latest Action:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security. (Jun 4, 2012)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/112th-congress/house-bill/5684>

### Sponsor

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**Name:** Rep. Heinrich, Martin [D-NM-1]

**Party:** Democratic • **State:** NM • **Chamber:** Senate

**Cosponsors** (57 total)

| Cosponsor                                   | Party / State | Role | Date Joined  |
|---|---------------|------|--------------|
| Del. Norton, Eleanor Holmes [D-DC-At Large] | D · DC        |      | May 9, 2012  |
| Rep. Capps, Lois [D-CA-23]                  | D · CA        |      | May 9, 2012  |
| Rep. Cicilline, David N. [D-RI-1]           | D · RI        |      | May 9, 2012  |
| Rep. Cooper, Jim [D-TN-5]                   | D · TN        |      | May 9, 2012  |
| Rep. Kissell, Larry [D-NC-8]                | D · NC        |      | May 9, 2012  |
| Rep. Lewis, John [D-GA-5]                   | D · GA        |      | May 9, 2012  |
| Rep. Lujan, Ben Ray [D-NM-3]                | D · NM        |      | May 9, 2012  |
| Rep. Perlmutter, Ed [D-CO-7]                | D · CO        |      | May 9, 2012  |
| Rep. Rothman, Steven R. [D-NJ-9]            | D · NJ        |      | May 9, 2012  |
| Rep. Rush, Bobby L. [D-IL-1]                | D · IL        |      | May 9, 2012  |
| Rep. Schiff, Adam B. [D-CA-29]              | D · CA        |      | May 9, 2012  |
| Rep. McGovern, James P. [D-MA-3]            | D · MA        |      | May 16, 2012 |
| Rep. Rangel, Charles B. [D-NY-15]           | D · NY        |      | May 16, 2012 |
| Rep. Hastings, Alcee L. [D-FL-23]           | D · FL        |      | May 17, 2012 |
| Rep. McCollum, Betty [D-MN-4]               | D · MN        |      | May 17, 2012 |
| Rep. Ryan, Tim [D-OH-17]                    | D · OH        |      | May 17, 2012 |
| Rep. Jackson, Jesse L., Jr. [D-IL-2]        | D · IL        |      | May 18, 2012 |
| Rep. Sanchez, Loretta [D-CA-47]             | D · CA        |      | May 18, 2012 |
| Rep. Davis, Susan A. [D-CA-53]              | D · CA        |      | May 25, 2012 |
| Rep. Gonzalez, Charles A. [D-TX-20]         | D · TX        |      | May 25, 2012 |
| Rep. Himes, James A. [D-CT-4]               | D · CT        |      | May 31, 2012 |
| Rep. Courtney, Joe [D-CT-2]                 | D · CT        |      | Jun 18, 2012 |
| Rep. Levin, Sander M. [D-MI-12]             | D · MI        |      | Jun 26, 2012 |
| Rep. Lipinski, Daniel [D-IL-3]              | D · IL        |      | Jun 27, 2012 |
| Rep. Cohen, Steve [D-TN-9]                  | D · TN        |      | Jun 29, 2012 |
| Rep. Connolly, Gerald E. [D-VA-11]          | D · VA        |      | Jun 29, 2012 |
| Rep. DeFazio, Peter A. [D-OR-4]             | D · OR        |      | Jun 29, 2012 |
| Rep. Schrader, Kurt [D-OR-5]                | D · OR        |      | Jun 29, 2012 |
| Rep. Carson, Andre [D-IN-7]                 | D · IN        |      | Jul 9, 2012  |
| Rep. Ellison, Keith [D-MN-5]                | D · MN        |      | Jul 9, 2012  |
| Rep. Keating, William R. [D-MA-10]          | D · MA        |      | Jul 9, 2012  |
| Rep. Peters, Gary C. [D-MI-9]               | D · MI        |      | Jul 9, 2012  |
| Rep. Garamendi, John [D-CA-10]              | D · CA        |      | Jul 10, 2012 |
| Rep. Braley, Bruce L. [D-IA-1]              | D · IA        |      | Jul 17, 2012 |
| Rep. Hahn, Janice [D-CA-36]                 | D · CA        |      | Jul 17, 2012 |
| Rep. Hinchey, Maurice D. [D-NY-22]          | D · NY        |      | Jul 17, 2012 |
| Rep. Holt, Rush [D-NJ-12]                   | D · NJ        |      | Jul 17, 2012 |
| Rep. Meeks, Gregory W. [D-NY-6]             | D · NY        |      | Jul 17, 2012 |
| Rep. Murphy, Christopher [D-CT-5]           | D · CT        |      | Jul 17, 2012 |
| Rep. Pingree, Chellie [D-ME-1]              | D · ME        |      | Jul 17, 2012 |
| Rep. Richardson, Laura [D-CA-37]            | D · CA        |      | Jul 17, 2012 |

| Cosponsor                                 | Party / State | Role | Date Joined  |
|---|---------------|------|--------------|
| Rep. Speier, Jackie [D-CA-12]             | D · CA        |      | Jul 17, 2012 |
| Rep. Grijalva, Raúl M. [D-AZ-7]           | D · AZ        |      | Jul 18, 2012 |
| Rep. McNerney, Jerry [D-CA-11]            | D · CA        |      | Jul 19, 2012 |
| Rep. Welch, Peter [D-VT-At Large]         | D · VT        |      | Jul 19, 2012 |
| Rep. Tsongas, Niki [D-MA-5]               | D · MA        |      | Jul 23, 2012 |
| Rep. Carney, John C., Jr. [D-DE-At Large] | D · DE        |      | Jul 25, 2012 |
| Rep. Richmond, Cedric L. [D-LA-2]         | D · LA        |      | Jul 25, 2012 |
| Rep. Yarmuth, John A. [D-KY-3]            | D · KY        |      | Jul 25, 2012 |
| Rep. Blumenauer, Earl [D-OR-3]            | D · OR        |      | Jul 31, 2012 |
| Rep. Deutch, Theodore E. [D-FL-19]        | D · FL        |      | Jul 31, 2012 |
| Rep. Sutton, Betty [D-OH-13]              | D · OH        |      | Aug 1, 2012  |
| Rep. Bonamici, Suzanne [D-OR-1]           | D · OR        |      | Aug 2, 2012  |
| Rep. Clarke, Hansen [D-MI-13]             | D · MI        |      | Aug 2, 2012  |
| Rep. Filner, Bob [D-CA-51]                | D · CA        |      | Sep 10, 2012 |
| Rep. Kucinich, Dennis J. [D-OH-10]        | D · OH        |      | Sep 10, 2012 |
| Rep. Stark, Fortney Pete [D-CA-13]        | D · CA        |      | Sep 10, 2012 |

### Committee Activity

| Committee           | Chamber | Activity    | Date        |
|---------------------|---------|-------------|-------------|
| Judiciary Committee | House   | Referred to | Jun 4, 2012 |

### Subjects & Policy Tags

#### Policy Area:

Crime and Law Enforcement

### Related Bills

| Bill       | Relationship   | Last Action   |
|------------|----------------|---|
| 112 S 3074 | Identical bill | <b>May 9, 2012:</b> Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions. |

Password Protection Act of 2012 - Amends the federal criminal code to subject to a fine any employer who knowingly and intentionally: (1) compels or coerces any person to provide the employer with a password or similar information to access a protected computer not owned by such employer; or (2) discharges, disciplines, discriminates, or threatens to take such actions, against any person who fails to authorize access to such computer, has filed a complaint or instituted a proceeding regarding such action, or testified or is about to testify in any such proceeding.

Declares that nothing in this Act shall be construed to limit the authority of a court of competent jurisdiction to grant equitable relief in a civil action, if the court believes that the information sought to be obtained is relevant to protecting the intellectual property, a trade secret, or confidential business information of the party seeking relief.

Exempts an employer's actions from such prohibition if: (1) the employer discharges or disciplines an individual for good cause; (2) a state enacts a law that specifically waives such prohibition with respect to a particular class of state or agency employees and the employer's action relates to an employee in such class; or (3) an executive agency, military department, or other executive branch entity specifically waives the prohibition with respect to a particular class of employees who may have access to classified information.

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### **Actions Timeline**

- **Jun 4, 2012:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security.
- **May 9, 2012:** Introduced in House
- **May 9, 2012:** Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary.