

HR 1422

EPA Science Advisory Board Reform Act of 2014

Congress: 113 (2013–2015, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Environmental Protection

Introduced: Apr 9, 2013

Current Status: Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

Latest Action: Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works. (Nov 19, 2014)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/113th-congress/house-bill/1422>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Stewart, Chris [R-UT-2]

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

Cosponsors (21 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Benishek, Dan [R-MI-1]	R · MI		Apr 9, 2013
Rep. Hall, Ralph M. [R-TX-4]	R · TX		Apr 9, 2013
Rep. Harris, Andy [R-MD-1]	R · MD		Apr 9, 2013
Rep. Rohrabacher, Dana [R-CA-48]	R · CA		Apr 9, 2013
Rep. Smith, Lamar [R-TX-21]	R · TX		Apr 9, 2013
Rep. Barton, Joe [R-TX-6]	R · TX		May 22, 2013
Rep. Bishop, Rob [R-UT-1]	R · UT		May 22, 2013
Rep. Daines, Steve [R-MT-At Large]	R · MT		May 22, 2013
Rep. Gohmert, Louie [R-TX-1]	R · TX		May 22, 2013
Rep. Price, Tom [R-GA-6]	R · GA		May 22, 2013
Rep. Stockman, Steve [R-TX-36]	R · TX		May 22, 2013
Rep. Westmoreland, Lynn A. [R-GA-3]	R · GA		May 22, 2013
Rep. Bachmann, Michele [R-MN-6]	R · MN		Jun 27, 2013
Rep. Broun, Paul C. [R-GA-10]	R · GA		Jun 27, 2013
Rep. Cramer, Kevin [R-ND-At Large]	R · ND		Jun 27, 2013
Rep. Franks, Trent [R-AZ-8]	R · AZ		Jun 27, 2013
Rep. Hartzler, Vicky [R-MO-4]	R · MO		Jun 27, 2013
Rep. Kline, John [R-MN-2]	R · MN		Jun 27, 2013
Rep. Lummis, Cynthia M. [R-WY-At Large]	R · WY		Jun 27, 2013
Rep. Schweikert, David [R-AZ-6]	R · AZ		Jun 27, 2013
Rep. Young, Don [R-AK-At Large]	R · AK		Jun 27, 2013

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Environment and Public Works Committee	Senate	Referred To	Nov 19, 2014
Science, Space, and Technology Committee	House	Reported By	Jul 22, 2013

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Environmental Protection

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
113 HRES 756	Related bill	Nov 18, 2014: Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
113 S 1853	Related bill	Dec 18, 2013: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EPA Science Advisory Board Reform Act of 2014 - (Sec. 2) Amends the Environmental Research, Development, and Demonstration Authorization Act of 1978 to revise requirements for the Science Advisory Board, which gives scientific advice to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and address public disclosure of scientific and technical information that the EPA uses as a basis for agency actions.

Emphasizes that the Board provides such advice independently.

Revises the process of selecting members of the Board. Requires at least 10% of Board membership to represent state, local, or tribal governments. Excludes from membership any federally registered lobbyists.

Directs the Board to ensure that:

- the points of view represented on the Board are fairly balanced among the members,
- persons with substantial and relevant expertise are not excluded from the Board because of affiliation with or representation of entities that might have a potential interest in the Board's advisory activities, and
- members do not participate in advisory activities that involve review or application of their own work.

Revises Board terms of office.

Revises the procedures for providing advice and comments to the EPA by: (1) including draft risk or hazard assessments in the regulatory proposals and documents made available to the Board, and (2) requiring advice and comments to be included in the record regarding any such proposal and published in the Federal Register.

Revises the operation of Board member committees and investigative panels to: (1) require that they operate in accordance with the membership, participation, and policy requirements (including new requirements for public participation in advisory activities of the Board) contained in this Act; (2) deny them authority to make decisions on behalf of the Board; and (3) prohibit direct reporting to EPA.

Revises requirements for public participation and transparency. Requires the EPA and the Board to make all reports and relevant scientific information available to the public concurrently when that information is made available to the Board.

Adds guidelines for the conduct of Board advisory activities, including: (1) avoidance of making policy determinations or recommendations, (2) communication of uncertainties, (3) dissenting members' views, and (4) periodic reviews to ensure that such activities address the most important scientific issues affecting EPA.

(Sec. 3) Prohibits this Act from being construed as supplanting the requirements of the Federal Advisory Committee Act or the Ethics in Government Act of 1978.

Actions Timeline

- **Nov 19, 2014:** Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.
- **Nov 18, 2014:** Considered under the provisions of rule H. Res. 756. (consideration: CR H8050-8064; text of measure as reported in the House: CR H8050-8051)
- **Nov 18, 2014:** Rule provides for consideration of H.R. 1422, H.R. 4012 and H.R. 4795. The resolution provides for consideration of H.R. 1422, H.R. 4012, and H.R. 4795. General debate is limited to 1 hour for each bill. The resolution specifies certain amendments are in order for H.R. 1422, H.R. 4012, and H.R. 4795. One motion to recommit with instructions is permitted for each bill.
- **Nov 18, 2014:** DEBATE - The House proceeded with one hour of debate on H.R. 1422.
- **Nov 18, 2014:** POSTPONED PROCEEDINGS - The Chair announced that pursuant to clause 1(c) of rule 19, further proceedings on H.R. 1422 had been postponed.
- **Nov 18, 2014:** Considered as unfinished business. (consideration: CR H8060-8064)
- **Nov 18, 2014:** DEBATE - Pursuant to the provisions of H.Res. 756, the House proceeded with 10 minutes of debate on the Stewart Part A amendment No. 1.
- **Nov 18, 2014:** Mr. Maloney, Sean moved to recommit with instructions to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology. (consideration: CR H8062-8063; text: H8062)
- **Nov 18, 2014:** DEBATE - The House proceeded with 10 minutes of debate on the Sean Maloney motion to recommit with instructions, pending reservation of a point of order. The instructions contained in the motion seek to require the bill to be reported back to the House with an amendment to prohibit people from serving on the Science Advisory Board if they represent a corporation or a trade association with a financial interest in the outcome of the Boards decisions. The reservation of the point of order was subsequently withdrawn.
- **Nov 18, 2014:** The previous question on the motion to recommit with instructions was ordered without objection. (consideration: CR H8062)
- **Nov 18, 2014:** On motion to recommit with instructions Failed by recorded vote: 195 - 225 (Roll no. 524).
- **Nov 18, 2014:** Passed/agreed to in House: On passage Passed by recorded vote: 229 - 191 (Roll no. 525).
- **Nov 18, 2014:** On passage Passed by recorded vote: 229 - 191 (Roll no. 525).
- **Nov 18, 2014:** Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
- **Nov 17, 2014:** Rules Committee Resolution H. Res. 756 Reported to House. Rule provides for consideration of H.R. 1422, H.R. 4012 and H.R. 4795. The resolution provides for consideration of H.R. 1422, H.R. 4012, and H.R. 4795. General debate is limited to 1 hour for each bill. The resolution specifies certain amendments are in order for H.R. 1422, H.R. 4012, and H.R. 4795. One motion to recommit with instructions is permitted for each bill.
- **Jul 22, 2013:** Reported (Amended) by the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology. H. Rept. 113-165.
- **Jul 22, 2013:** Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 119.
- **Apr 11, 2013:** Committee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held.
- **Apr 11, 2013:** Ordered to be Reported (Amended) by the Yeas and Nays: 21 - 16.
- **Apr 9, 2013:** Introduced in House
- **Apr 9, 2013:** Referred to the House Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.