

S 1853

EPA Science Advisory Board Reform Act of 2013

Congress: 113 (2013–2015, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Environmental Protection

Introduced: Dec 18, 2013

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

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works. (Dec 18, 2013)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/113th-congress/senate-bill/1853>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Boozman, John [R-AR]

Party: Republican • **State:** AR • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (7 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Crapo, Mike [R-ID]	R · ID		Dec 18, 2013
Sen. Manchin, Joe, III [D-WV]	D · WV		Dec 18, 2013
Sen. Sessions, Jeff [R-AL]	R · AL		Dec 18, 2013
Sen. Vitter, David [R-LA]	R · LA		Dec 18, 2013
Sen. Wicker, Roger F. [R-MS]	R · MS		Dec 18, 2013
Sen. Fischer, Deb [R-NE]	R · NE		Jan 14, 2014
Sen. Inhofe, James M. [R-OK]	R · OK		Dec 1, 2014

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Environment and Public Works Committee	Senate	Referred To	Dec 18, 2013

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Environmental Protection

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
113 HR 1422	Related bill	Nov 19, 2014: Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EPA Science Advisory Board Reform Act of 2013 - Amends the Environmental Research, Development, and Demonstration Authorization Act of 1978 to revise the process of selecting members of the Science Advisory Board, guidelines for participation in Board advisory activities, and terms of office. (The Board provides scientific advice to the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency [EPA].) Prohibits federally registered lobbyists from being appointed to the Board.

Revises the procedures for providing advice and comments to the Administrator by: (1) including 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.

Adds guidelines for the conduct of Board advisory activities, including concerning: (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.

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

- **Dec 18, 2013:** Introduced in Senate
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