

## S 2140

A bill to improve the transition between experimental permits and commercial licenses for commercial reusable launch vehicles.

**Congress:** 113 (2013–2015, Ended)

**Chamber:** Senate

**Policy Area:** Science, Technology, Communications

**Introduced:** Mar 13, 2014

**Current Status:** By Senator Rockefeller from Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation filed written report.

**Latest Action:** By Senator Rockefeller from Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation filed written report.

Report No. 113-318. (Dec 12, 2014)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/113th-congress/senate-bill/2140>

### Sponsor

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

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

### Cosponsors (5 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Rubio, Marco [R-FL]	R · FL		Mar 13, 2014
Sen. Udall, Tom [D-NM]	D · NM		Mar 13, 2014
Sen. Feinstein, Dianne [D-CA]	D · CA		Mar 26, 2014
Sen. Wicker, Roger F. [R-MS]	R · MS		Apr 2, 2014
Sen. Cornyn, John [R-TX]	R · TX		Apr 10, 2014

### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee	Senate	Reported By	Dec 4, 2014

### Subjects & Policy Tags

#### Policy Area:

Science, Technology, Communications

### Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
113 HR 3038	Related bill	Dec 13, 2013: Referred to the Subcommittee on Space.

Revises requirements for experimental permits related to commercial space launch activities.

Authorizes the Secretary of Transportation to issue an experimental permit for a particular reusable suborbital vehicle (RSV) for research and development to test design concepts, equipment, or operating techniques, regardless of whether they are new (as under current law) or already existing.

Strikes the requirement that crew training for which the permit may be used must occur before a commercial license for launch or reentry is obtained.

Allows a permit to authorize an unlimited number of launches and reentries for a particular RSV rocket design (as well as for a particular RSV, as under current law).

Repeals the prohibition against issuance of a permit, and the automatic invalidation of an existing permit, after a license has been issued for the launch or reentry of an RSV of a particular design.

Authorizes the Secretary to issue a permit regardless of whether a license has already been issued. Declares that the issuance of a license may not invalidate a permit.

## **Actions Timeline**

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- **Dec 12, 2014:** By Senator Rockefeller from Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation filed written report. Report No. 113-318.
- **Dec 4, 2014:** Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. Reported by Senator Rockefeller with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. Without written report.
- **Dec 4, 2014:** Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 612.
- **Apr 9, 2014:** Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. Ordered to be reported with an amendment in the nature of a substitute favorably.
- **Mar 13, 2014:** Introduced in Senate
- **Mar 13, 2014:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.