

HR 2183

Drones Accountability Act

**Congress:** 113 (2013–2015, Ended)

**Chamber:** House

**Policy Area:** Armed Forces and National Security

**Introduced:** May 23, 2013

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

**Latest Action:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, and Investigations. (Jun 14, 2013)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/113th-congress/house-bill/2183>

Sponsor

**Name:** Rep. Lee, Barbara [D-CA-13]

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

Cosponsors (3 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Grijalva, Raúl M. [D-AZ-3]	D · AZ		Jun 5, 2013
Rep. Holt, Rush [D-NJ-12]	D · NJ		Jun 5, 2013
Rep. McGovern, James P. [D-MA-2]	D · MA		Apr 29, 2014

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Armed Services Committee	House	Referred To	May 23, 2013
Intelligence (Permanent Select) Committee	House	Referred To	May 23, 2013
Judiciary Committee	House	Referred to	Jun 14, 2013

Subjects & Policy Tags

**Policy Area:**

Armed Forces and National Security

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Drones Accountability Act - Prohibits the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) from operating or controlling armed unmanned aerial vehicles (drones) or combat aircraft.

Prohibit any member of the U.S. Armed Forces and any other employee or contractor of the Department of Defense (DOD) from carrying out an order or authorization from any CIA employee or contractor to use lethal force.

Requires the Department of Defense (DOD) to report to Congress on: (1) the existence and sufficiency of civilian protection mechanisms in accordance with international law concerning armed operations that use unmanned aerial operations; (2) the methodology used to distinguish combatants from civilians before armed operations and after a strike has occurred; (3) the existence and sufficiency of standards for the identification of targets and the sufficiency of intelligence sources and analysis where there is limited U.S. ground presence; and (4) the existence and sufficiency of processes for recognizing the effects of drone strikes on the organization being targeted and on the country or region in which the strike takes place.

Requires the DOD, Department of Justice (DOJ), and CIA, once every three months, to provide Congress with all legal opinions giving advice with regard the authority to use lethal force in order to justify operations.

Expresses the sense of Congress that a moratorium must be enforced against the lethal use of armed unmanned aerial vehicles until the Administration has presented, and Congress has approved, sufficient safeguards and sufficient oversight addressing the concerns highlighted in the report required by this Act.

Bars, until such safeguards are in place, the obligation or expenditure of any funding available for the Armed Forces or the CIA for the purpose of using lethal force against an individual unless: (1) that individual presents an imminent threat to the United States, (2) lethal force is the last resort, and (3) the harm caused to civilians or civilian property is proportional and does not violate international humanitarian law.

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### **Actions Timeline**

- **Jun 14, 2013:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, and Investigations.
- **May 23, 2013:** Introduced in House
- **May 23, 2013:** Referred to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committees on Intelligence (Permanent Select), and the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.