

## HR 3135

Domestic Partnership Benefits and Obligations Act of 2013

**Congress:** 113 (2013–2015, Ended)

**Chamber:** House

**Policy Area:** Government Operations and Politics

**Introduced:** Sep 19, 2013

**Current Status:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Workforce Protections.

**Latest Action:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Workforce Protections. (Jan 22, 2014)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/113th-congress/house-bill/3135>

### Sponsor

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**Name:** Rep. Pocan, Mark [D-WI-2]

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

**Cosponsors** (90 total)

<b>Cosponsor</b>	<b>Party / State</b>	<b>Role</b>	<b>Date Joined</b>
Rep. Bonamici, Suzanne [D-OR-1]	D · OR		Sep 19, 2013
Rep. Brady, Robert A. [D-PA-1]	D · PA		Sep 19, 2013
Rep. Braley, Bruce L. [D-IA-1]	D · IA		Sep 19, 2013
Rep. Capps, Lois [D-CA-24]	D · CA		Sep 19, 2013
Rep. Cartwright, Matt [D-PA-17]	D · PA		Sep 19, 2013
Rep. Chu, Judy [D-CA-27]	D · CA		Sep 19, 2013
Rep. Cicilline, David N. [D-RI-1]	D · RI		Sep 19, 2013
Rep. Cohen, Steve [D-TN-9]	D · TN		Sep 19, 2013
Rep. Connolly, Gerald E. [D-VA-11]	D · VA		Sep 19, 2013
Rep. Cummings, Elijah E. [D-MD-7]	D · MD		Sep 19, 2013
Rep. DelBene, Suzan K. [D-WA-1]	D · WA		Sep 19, 2013
Rep. Doyle, Michael F. [D-PA-14]	D · PA		Sep 19, 2013
Rep. Edwards, Donna F. [D-MD-4]	D · MD		Sep 19, 2013
Rep. Esty, Elizabeth H. [D-CT-5]	D · CT		Sep 19, 2013
Rep. Fudge, Marcia L. [D-OH-11]	D · OH		Sep 19, 2013
Rep. Grijalva, Raúl M. [D-AZ-3]	D · AZ		Sep 19, 2013
Rep. Hanna, Richard L. [R-NY-22]	R · NY		Sep 19, 2013
Rep. Honda, Michael M. [D-CA-17]	D · CA		Sep 19, 2013
Rep. Johnson, Henry C. "Hank," Jr. [D-GA-4]	D · GA		Sep 19, 2013
Rep. Kaptur, Marcy [D-OH-9]	D · OH		Sep 19, 2013
Rep. Lee, Barbara [D-CA-13]	D · CA		Sep 19, 2013
Rep. Lewis, John [D-GA-5]	D · GA		Sep 19, 2013
Rep. Lynch, Stephen F. [D-MA-8]	D · MA		Sep 19, 2013
Rep. Maloney, Carolyn B. [D-NY-12]	D · NY		Sep 19, 2013
Rep. Matsui, Doris O. [D-CA-6]	D · CA		Sep 19, 2013
Rep. McGovern, James P. [D-MA-2]	D · MA		Sep 19, 2013
Rep. Michaud, Michael H. [D-ME-2]	D · ME		Sep 19, 2013
Rep. Moore, Gwen [D-WI-4]	D · WI		Sep 19, 2013
Rep. Moran, James P. [D-VA-8]	D · VA		Sep 19, 2013
Rep. Murphy, Patrick [D-FL-18]	D · FL		Sep 19, 2013
Rep. Pingree, Chellie [D-ME-1]	D · ME		Sep 19, 2013
Rep. Polis, Jared [D-CO-2]	D · CO		Sep 19, 2013
Rep. Quigley, Mike [D-IL-5]	D · IL		Sep 19, 2013
Rep. Rangel, Charles B. [D-NY-13]	D · NY		Sep 19, 2013
Rep. Ros-Lehtinen, Ileana [R-FL-27]	R · FL		Sep 19, 2013
Rep. Rush, Bobby L. [D-IL-1]	D · IL		Sep 19, 2013
Rep. Sarbanes, John P. [D-MD-3]	D · MD		Sep 19, 2013
Rep. Schakowsky, Janice D. [D-IL-9]	D · IL		Sep 19, 2013
Rep. Schneider, Bradley Scott [D-IL-10]	D · IL		Sep 19, 2013
Rep. Schwartz, Allyson Y. [D-PA-13]	D · PA		Sep 19, 2013
Rep. Serrano, Jose E. [D-NY-15]	D · NY		Sep 19, 2013

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Slaughter, Louise McIntosh [D-NY-25]	D · NY		Sep 19, 2013
Rep. Smith, Adam [D-WA-9]	D · WA		Sep 19, 2013
Rep. Speier, Jackie [D-CA-14]	D · CA		Sep 19, 2013
Rep. Takano, Mark [D-CA-41]	D · CA		Sep 19, 2013
Rep. Tonko, Paul [D-NY-20]	D · NY		Sep 19, 2013
Rep. Tsongas, Niki [D-MA-3]	D · MA		Sep 19, 2013
Rep. Van Hollen, Chris [D-MD-8]	D · MD		Sep 19, 2013
Rep. Vargas, Juan [D-CA-51]	D · CA		Sep 19, 2013
Rep. Velazquez, Nydia M. [D-NY-7]	D · NY		Sep 19, 2013
Rep. Walz, Timothy J. [D-MN-1]	D · MN		Sep 19, 2013
Rep. Waxman, Henry A. [D-CA-33]	D · CA		Sep 19, 2013
Rep. Welch, Peter [D-VT-At Large]	D · VT		Sep 19, 2013
Rep. Meeks, Gregory W. [D-NY-5]	D · NY		Sep 26, 2013
Rep. Lowenthal, Alan S. [D-CA-47]	D · CA		Oct 22, 2013
Rep. Maloney, Sean Patrick [D-NY-18]	D · NY		Oct 22, 2013
Rep. DeLauro, Rosa L. [D-CT-3]	D · CT		Nov 12, 2013
Rep. Higgins, Brian [D-NY-26]	D · NY		Nov 12, 2013
Rep. Himes, James A. [D-CT-4]	D · CT		Nov 12, 2013
Rep. Schiff, Adam B. [D-CA-28]	D · CA		Nov 12, 2013
Rep. Wilson, Frederica S. [D-FL-24]	D · FL		Nov 12, 2013
Rep. Swalwell, Eric [D-CA-15]	D · CA		Nov 15, 2013
Rep. Kuster, Ann M. [D-NH-2]	D · NH		Nov 18, 2013
Rep. McCollum, Betty [D-MN-4]	D · MN		Nov 19, 2013
Rep. Langevin, James R. [D-RI-2]	D · RI		Nov 20, 2013
Rep. Price, David E. [D-NC-4]	D · NC		Nov 20, 2013
Rep. Cárdenas, Tony [D-CA-29]	D · CA		Dec 3, 2013
Rep. Farr, Sam [D-CA-20]	D · CA		Dec 3, 2013
Rep. Gutierrez, Luis V. [D-IL-4]	D · IL		Dec 3, 2013
Rep. Hastings, Alcee L. [D-FL-20]	D · FL		Dec 3, 2013
Rep. Bustos, Cheri [D-IL-17]	D · IL		Jan 8, 2014
Rep. Loebsack, David [D-IA-2]	D · IA		Jan 8, 2014
Rep. Miller, George [D-CA-11]	D · CA		Jan 8, 2014
Rep. O'Rourke, Beto [D-TX-16]	D · TX		Jan 8, 2014
Rep. Ryan, Tim [D-OH-13]	D · OH		Jan 8, 2014
Rep. Delaney, John K. [D-MD-6]	D · MD		Jan 14, 2014
Rep. Lowey, Nita M. [D-NY-17]	D · NY		Jan 15, 2014
Rep. Huffman, Jared [D-CA-2]	D · CA		Feb 11, 2014
Rep. Clark, Katherine M. [D-MA-5]	D · MA		Feb 28, 2014
Rep. Blumenauer, Earl [D-OR-3]	D · OR		Mar 14, 2014
Rep. Schrader, Kurt [D-OR-5]	D · OR		Mar 14, 2014
Rep. Hahn, Janice [D-CA-44]	D · CA		Mar 25, 2014
Rep. Tierney, John F. [D-MA-6]	D · MA		Mar 25, 2014

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Garcia, Joe [D-FL-26]	D · FL		Apr 4, 2014
Rep. Larsen, Rick [D-WA-2]	D · WA		Apr 9, 2014
Rep. Peters, Scott H. [D-CA-52]	D · CA		Apr 29, 2014
Rep. Davis, Susan A. [D-CA-53]	D · CA		May 1, 2014
Rep. Ellison, Keith [D-MN-5]	D · MN		May 21, 2014
Rep. Heck, Denny [D-WA-10]	D · WA		Jun 9, 2014
Rep. Israel, Steve [D-NY-3]	D · NY		Sep 18, 2014

## Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Committee on House Administration	House	Referred To	Sep 19, 2013
Education and Workforce Committee	House	Referred to	Jan 22, 2014
Judiciary Committee	House	Referred to	Jan 9, 2014
Oversight and Government Reform Committee	House	Referred To	Sep 19, 2013

## Subjects & Policy Tags

### Policy Area:

Government Operations and Politics

## Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
113 S 1529	Related bill	<b>Sep 19, 2013:</b> Read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

Domestic Partnership Benefits and Obligations Act of 2013 - Amends provisions of federal civil service law to extend employment-related and retirement benefits to domestic partners of federal employees and to set forth requirements for establishing and terminating a domestic partnership, including the filing of an affidavit attesting to the existence and legitimacy of the partnership.

Modifies provisions relating to the Civil Service Retirement System (CSRS) and the Federal Employees' Retirement System (FERS) to extend eligibility for annuity and survivor benefits to current and former domestic partners of federal employees on the same basis as married employees. Requires the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) to prescribe regulations to provide that domestic partners and former domestic partners shall be considered as spouses or former spouses for purposes of creditable service determinations under CSRS and FERS.

Makes domestic partners of federal employees eligible for: (1) the federal employee group life insurance (FEGLI) program, (2) federal employees health benefits (FEHB), (3) dental and vision benefit plans, and (4) long-term care insurance coverage.

Grants the head of an federal agency authority to reimburse an employee for taxes incurred by the domestic partner of such employee for travel, transportation, or relocation expense reimbursements.

Modifies provisions of the Federal Employees' Compensation Act (FECA) to make domestic partners of federal employees eligible for worker compensation benefits under such Act.

Adds "domestic partner" to the list of relatives subject to restrictions on federal employment of relatives and related prohibitions.

Includes a biological, adopted, or foster child of a domestic partner as a "son or daughter" for purposes of federal employee family and medical leave provisions. Allows a federal employee family and medical leave to care for a domestic partner.

Requires the President to prescribe regulations necessary to ensure that specified provisions relating to the following are administered in a manner consistent with the purposes of this Act: (1) the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993; (2) travel, transportation, and related payments and benefits under the Foreign Service Act of 1980 and for civilian employees of the Department of Defense (DOD); (3) certain benefits for members of the commissioned officer corps of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA); and (4) benefits related to federal employees or annuitants and benefits necessary to carry out the purposes of this Act.

Amends the Ethics in Government Act of 1978 to make provisions of that Act applicable to domestic partners of federal employees to the same extent as married employees, including provisions relating to financial disclosure, government-wide limitations on outside earned income and employment, gifts to superiors and to federal employees, bribery, acceptance of travel expenses from nonfederal sources, taxes on self-dealing, and disqualification of a justice, judge, or magistrate judge.

Requires reporting by: (1) the President on the implementation of this Act, and (2) the Government Accountability Office (GAO) on the effect of this Act on premiums or other periodic charges under FEHB and the impact of extending benefits to domestic partners on federal employee retention and recruitment efforts.

## **Actions Timeline**

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- **Jan 22, 2014:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Workforce Protections.
- **Jan 9, 2014:** Referred to the Subcommittee on the Constitution and Civil Justice.
- **Sep 19, 2013:** Introduced in House
- **Sep 19, 2013:** Referred to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, and in addition to the Committees on Education and the Workforce, House Administration, 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.

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