

HR 4138

ENFORCE the Law Act of 2014

Congress: 113 (2013–2015, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Government Operations and Politics

Introduced: Mar 4, 2014

Current Status: Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Latest Action: Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. (Mar 13, 2014)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/113th-congress/house-bill/4138>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Gowdy, Trey [R-SC-4]

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

Cosponsors (22 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Bachus, Spencer [R-AL-6]	R · AL		Mar 4, 2014
Rep. Black, Diane [R-TN-6]	R · TN		Mar 4, 2014
Rep. Chabot, Steve [R-OH-1]	R · OH		Mar 4, 2014
Rep. Chaffetz, Jason [R-UT-3]	R · UT		Mar 4, 2014
Rep. Collins, Doug [R-GA-9]	R · GA		Mar 4, 2014
Rep. Duncan, Jeff [R-SC-3]	R · SC		Mar 4, 2014
Rep. Forbes, J. Randy [R-VA-4]	R · VA		Mar 4, 2014
Rep. Franks, Trent [R-AZ-8]	R · AZ		Mar 4, 2014
Rep. Gerlach, Jim [R-PA-6]	R · PA		Mar 4, 2014
Rep. Goodlatte, Bob [R-VA-6]	R · VA		Mar 4, 2014
Rep. Issa, Darrell E. [R-CA-49]	R · CA		Mar 4, 2014
Rep. Jordan, Jim [R-OH-4]	R · OH		Mar 4, 2014
Rep. Kelly, Mike [R-PA-3]	R · PA		Mar 4, 2014
Rep. Labrador, Raul R. [R-ID-1]	R · ID		Mar 4, 2014
Rep. Sensenbrenner, F. James, Jr. [R-WI-5]	R · WI		Mar 4, 2014
Rep. Smith, Jason [R-MO-8]	R · MO		Mar 4, 2014
Rep. Smith, Lamar [R-TX-21]	R · TX		Mar 4, 2014
Rep. Poe, Ted [R-TX-2]	R · TX		Mar 6, 2014
Rep. Wagner, Ann [R-MO-2]	R · MO		Mar 6, 2014
Rep. Westmoreland, Lynn A. [R-GA-3]	R · GA		Mar 6, 2014
Rep. Rigell, E. Scott [R-VA-2]	R · VA		Mar 7, 2014
Rep. Sessions, Pete [R-TX-32]	R · TX		Mar 7, 2014

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Judiciary Committee	House	Discharged from	Mar 5, 2014
Judiciary Committee	Senate	Referred To	Mar 13, 2014

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Government Operations and Politics

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
113 HRES 511	Related bill	Mar 12, 2014: Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
113 S 2118	Related bill	Mar 12, 2014: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Summary (as of Mar 12, 2014)

Executive Needs to Faithfully Observe and Respect Congressional Enactments of the Law Act of 2014 or the ENFORCE the Law Act of 2014 - Authorizes either chamber of Congress, upon adoption of a resolution declaring that the President or any officer or employee of the United States has established or implemented a policy, practice, or procedure to refrain from enforcing, applying, following, or administering any federal statute, rule, regulation, program, policy, or other law in violation of the constitutional requirement that the President faithfully execute the laws of the United States, to bring a civil action for a declaratory judgment to that effect.

Grants jurisdiction to a three-judge panel of a U.S. district court to hear such civil action and provides for an expedited direct appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court.

Requires the Comptroller General (GAO) to submit quarterly reports to the congressional judiciary committees on the costs of any civil action brought under this Act, including any attorney fees paid in connection with any such action.

Actions Timeline

- **Mar 13, 2014:** Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.
- **Mar 12, 2014:** Considered under the provisions of rule H. Res. 511. (consideration: CR H2319-2340)
- **Mar 12, 2014:** Rule provides for consideration of H.R. 4138 and H.R. 3973. Previous question shall be considered as ordered without intervening motions except motion to recommit with or without instructions. Measure will be considered read. Specified amendments are in order.
- **Mar 12, 2014:** House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union pursuant to H. Res. 511 and Rule XVIII.
- **Mar 12, 2014:** The Speaker designated the Honorable Glenn Thompson to act as Chairman of the Committee.
- **Mar 12, 2014:** GENERAL DEBATE - The Committee of the Whole proceeded with one hour of general debate on H.R. 4138.
- **Mar 12, 2014:** DEBATE - Pursuant to the provisions of H. Res. 511, the Committee of the Whole proceeded with 10 minutes of debate on the Conyers Part A amendment No. 1.
- **Mar 12, 2014:** POSTPONED PROCEEDINGS - At the conclusion of debate on the Conyers Part A amendment No. 1, the Chair put the question on adoption of the amendment and by voice vote announced that the noes had prevailed. Mr. Conyers demanded a recorded vote and the Chair postponed further proceedings on adoption of the amendment until later in the legislative day.
- **Mar 12, 2014:** DEBATE - Pursuant to the provisions of H. Res. 511, the Committee of the Whole proceeded with 10 minutes of debate on the Nadler Part A amendment No. 2.
- **Mar 12, 2014:** POSTPONED PROCEEDINGS - At the conclusion of debate on the Nadler Part A amendment No. 2, the Chair put the question on adoption of the amendment and by voice vote announced that the noes had prevailed. Mr. Nadler demanded a recorded vote and the Chair postponed further proceedings on adoption of the amendment until later in the legislative day.
- **Mar 12, 2014:** The Committee rose informally to receive a message from the President of the United States, and resumed its sitting afterwards.
- **Mar 12, 2014:** DEBATE - Pursuant to the provisions of H. Res. 511, the Committee of the Whole proceeded with 10 minutes of debate on the Jackson Lee Part A amendment No. 3.
- **Mar 12, 2014:** POSTPONED PROCEEDINGS - At the conclusion of debate on the Jackson Lee Part A amendment No. 3, the Chair put the question on adoption of the amendment and by voice vote announced that the noes had prevailed. Ms. Jackson Lee demanded a recorded vote and the Chair postponed further proceedings on adoption of the amendment until later in the legislative day.
- **Mar 12, 2014:** DEBATE - Pursuant to the provisions of H. Res. 511, the Committee of the Whole proceeded with 10 minutes of debate on the Cicilline Part A amendment No. 4.
- **Mar 12, 2014:** UNFINISHED BUSINESS - The Chair announced that the unfinished business was the question on adoption of amendments which had been debated earlier and on which further proceedings had been postponed.
- **Mar 12, 2014:** The House rose from the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union to report H.R. 4138.
- **Mar 12, 2014:** The previous question was ordered pursuant to the rule. (consideration: CR H2337)
- **Mar 12, 2014:** The House adopted the amendment in the nature of a substitute as agreed to by the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union. (text of amendment in the nature of a substitute: CR H2329-2330)
- **Mar 12, 2014:** Mr. Ruiz moved to recommit with instructions to Judiciary. (consideration: CR H2338-2339; text: CR H2338)
- **Mar 12, 2014:** DEBATE - The House proceeded with 10 minutes of debate on the Ruiz motion to recommit with instructions contained in the motion seek to require the bill to be reported back to the House with an amendment to add at the end of the bill Section 3, Protecting States' Rights, and adding Section 4, Restoring Unemployment Benefits for America's Job Seekers. Pending a reservation of a point of order. Subsequently, the reservation was removed.
- **Mar 12, 2014:** The previous question on the motion to recommit with instructions was ordered without objection. (consideration: CR H2338)
- **Mar 12, 2014:** On motion to recommit with instructions Failed by recorded vote: 187 - 228 (Roll no. 123). (consideration: CR H2339)
- **Mar 12, 2014:** Passed/agreed to in House: On passage Passed by recorded vote: 233 - 181 (Roll no. 124).
- **Mar 12, 2014:** On passage Passed by recorded vote: 233 - 181 (Roll no. 124).
- **Mar 12, 2014:** Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
- **Mar 11, 2014:** Rules Committee Resolution H. Res. 511 Reported to House. Rule provides for consideration of H.R.

4138 and H.R. 3973. Previous question shall be considered as ordered without intervening motions except motion to recommit with or without instructions. Measure will be considered read. Specified amendments are in order.

- **Mar 7, 2014:** Reported by the Committee on Judiciary. H. Rept. 113-377.
- **Mar 7, 2014:** Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 281.
- **Mar 5, 2014:** Subcommittee on the Constitution and Civil Justice Discharged.
- **Mar 5, 2014:** Committee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held.
- **Mar 5, 2014:** Ordered to be Reported by the Yeas and Nays: 18 - 14.
- **Mar 4, 2014:** Introduced in House
- **Mar 4, 2014:** Referred to the Subcommittee on the Constitution and Civil Justice.
- **Mar 4, 2014:** Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary.