

## HR 5523

Employee Benefits Protection Act of 2014

**Congress:** 113 (2013–2015, Ended)

**Chamber:** House

**Policy Area:** Labor and Employment

**Introduced:** Sep 17, 2014

**Current Status:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Health, Employment, Labor, and Pensions.

**Latest Action:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Health, Employment, Labor, and Pensions. (Nov 17, 2014)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/113th-congress/house-bill/5523>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Rep. Slaughter, Louise McIntosh [D-NY-25]

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

### Cosponsors (1 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Jones, Walter B., Jr. [R-NC-3]	R · NC		Sep 17, 2014

### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Education and Workforce Committee	House	Referred to	Nov 17, 2014

### Subjects & Policy Tags

#### Policy Area:

Labor and Employment

### Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
113 S 2418	Related bill	<b>Jun 3, 2014:</b> Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Employee Benefits Protection Act of 2014 - Amends the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) to require the mandatory summary description of a group health plan to declare: (1) whether the plan permits either the plan sponsor or any participating employer to unilaterally modify or terminate plan benefits affecting employees, retirees, and beneficiaries; and (2) when and to what extent plan benefits are fully vested with respect to these individuals.

Presumes that retiree health benefits cannot be modified or terminated as of the date an employee retires or completes 20 years of service with the employer. Allows this presumption to be overcome only upon a showing, by clear and convincing evidence, that the employee, before becoming a plan participant, was made aware, in clear and unambiguous terms, that the plan allowed for such a modification or termination of benefits.

Amends the National Labor Relations Act to make it an unfair labor practice for a labor organization and employer to enter into a contract or agreement to modify a previous agreement in a manner that results in a reduction or termination of retiree health insurance benefits, if the modification occurs after the retiree's retirement date.

Directs the Comptroller General (GAO) to report to Congress on strategies used by corporations to avoid obligations to pay promised employee and retiree benefits.

### **Actions Timeline**

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- **Nov 17, 2014:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Health, Employment, Labor, and Pensions.
- **Sep 17, 2014:** Introduced in House
- **Sep 17, 2014:** Referred to the House Committee on Education and the Workforce.