

## S 1172

Edward "Ted" Kaufman and Michael Leavitt Presidential Transitions Improvements Act of 2015

**Congress:** 114 (2015–2017, Ended)

**Chamber:** Senate

**Policy Area:** Government Operations and Politics

**Introduced:** Apr 30, 2015

**Current Status:** Became Public Law No: 114-136.

**Latest Action:** Became Public Law No: 114-136. (Mar 18, 2016)

**Law:** 114-136 (Enacted Mar 18, 2016)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/senate-bill/1172>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Sen. Carper, Thomas R. [D-DE]

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

### Cosponsors (1 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Johnson, Ron [R-WI]	R · WI		Apr 30, 2015

### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee	Senate	Reported By	Jul 27, 2015
Homeland Security Committee	House	Referred to	Aug 8, 2015
Oversight and Government Reform Committee	House	Reported By	Dec 18, 2015

### Subjects & Policy Tags

#### Policy Area:

Government Operations and Politics

### Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

(This measure has not been amended since it was reported to the House on December 18, 2015. The summary of that version is repeated here.)

**Edward "Ted" Kaufman and Michael Leavitt Presidential Transitions Improvements Act of 2015**

(Sec. 2) This bill amends the Presidential Transition Act of 1963 to direct the President to plan and coordinate activities to facilitate an efficient transfer of power to a successor President, including by: (1) not later than six months before a presidential election, establishing and operating a White House transition coordinating council; and (2) establishing and operating an agency transition directors council.

The General Services Administration (GSA) must designate a senior career appointee to: (1) carry out the duties and authorities of GSA relating to presidential transitions, (2) serve as the Federal Transition Coordinator to coordinate transition planning across agencies; (3) ensure that agencies comply with all statutory requirements relating to transition planning and reporting, and (4) act as a liaison to eligible candidates.

Each executive agency shall designate a senior career employee to oversee transition activities.

The Federal Transition Coordinator shall: (1) negotiate a memorandum of understanding with the transition representative of each eligible candidate on the conditions of access to employees, facilities, and documents of agencies by transition staff; and (2) submit reports to specified congressional committees on the activities undertaken by the current administration and executive agencies to prepare for the transfer of power to a new President.

(Sec. 3) This section requires the President's annual budget request to Congress to include funding for the management and custody of presidential records by the National Archives and Records Administration for each fiscal year in which the term of office of the President will expire.

(Sec. 4) This section directs the Office of Personnel Management to submit to specified congressional committees annual reports on requests by agencies to appoint political appointees or former political appointees to nonpolitical civil service positions. These reports shall be submitted quarterly in the last year of a presidential term or in the last year of the second consecutive term of a President.

(Sec. 5) This section directs the Government Accountability Office to report to specified congressional committees on final significant regulatory actions promulgated during the last 120-day period of presidential administrations ending in 2001, 2009, and 2017. A significant regulatory action means any regulatory action that is likely to result in a rule that may: (1) have an annual effect on the economy of \$100 million or more or adversely affect in a material way the economy, the environment, productivity, competition, jobs, public health or safety, or state, local, or tribal governments or communities; (2) create a serious inconsistency or otherwise interfere with an agency action; (3) materially alter the budgetary impact of entitlements, grants, user fees, or loan programs, or (4) raise novel legal or policy issues.

(Sec. 6) This section directs the Department of Homeland Security to submit, not later than February 15, 2016, a report to specified congressional committees analyzing the threats and vulnerabilities facing the United States during a presidential transition.

## Actions Timeline

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- **Mar 18, 2016:** Signed by President.
- **Mar 18, 2016:** Became Public Law No: 114-136.
- **Mar 15, 2016:** Presented to President.
- **Mar 9, 2016:** Message on Senate action sent to the House.
- **Mar 8, 2016:** Resolving differences -- Senate actions: Senate agreed to the House amendment to the Senate bill by Unanimous Consent.(consideration: CR S1349)
- **Mar 8, 2016:** Senate agreed to the House amendment to the Senate bill by Unanimous Consent. (consideration: CR S1349)
- **Mar 1, 2016:** Message on House action received in Senate and at desk: House amendment to Senate bill.
- **Feb 29, 2016:** Mr. Hice, Jody B. moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.
- **Feb 29, 2016:** Considered under suspension of the rules. (consideration: CR H1028-1031)
- **Feb 29, 2016:** DEBATE - The House proceeded with forty minutes of debate on S. 1172.
- **Feb 29, 2016:** Passed/agreed to in House: On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended Agreed to by voice vote.(text: CR H1028-1030)
- **Feb 29, 2016:** On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended Agreed to by voice vote. (text: CR H1028-1030)
- **Feb 29, 2016:** Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
- **Dec 18, 2015:** Reported (Amended) by the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. H. Rept. 114-384, Part I.
- **Dec 18, 2015:** Committee on Homeland Security discharged.
- **Dec 18, 2015:** Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 290.
- **Oct 9, 2015:** Committee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held.
- **Oct 9, 2015:** Ordered to be Reported in the Nature of a Substitute (Amended) by Unanimous Consent.
- **Aug 8, 2015:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Oversight and Management Efficiency.
- **Jul 31, 2015:** Message on Senate action sent to the House.
- **Jul 31, 2015:** Received in the House.
- **Jul 31, 2015:** Referred to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, and in addition to the Committee on Homeland Security, 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.
- **Jul 30, 2015:** Measure laid before Senate by unanimous consent. (consideration: CR S6205-6209)
- **Jul 30, 2015:** The committee amendments agreed to by Unanimous Consent. (consideration: CR S6207; text of measure as reported in Senate: CR S6207)
- **Jul 30, 2015:** Passed/agreed to in Senate: Passed Senate with amendments by Unanimous Consent.(text: CR S6207-6209)
- **Jul 30, 2015:** Passed Senate with amendments by Unanimous Consent. (text: CR S6207-6209)
- **Jul 27, 2015:** Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs. Reported by Senator Johnson with amendments. With written report No. 114-94.
- **Jul 27, 2015:** Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 166.
- **May 6, 2015:** Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs. Ordered to be reported with amendments favorably.
- **Apr 30, 2015:** Introduced in Senate
- **Apr 30, 2015:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.