

## S 1887

### Protect and Preserve International Cultural Property Act

**Congress:** 114 (2015–2017, Ended)

**Chamber:** Senate

**Policy Area:** International Affairs

**Introduced:** Jul 29, 2015

**Current Status:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

**Latest Action:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations. (Jul 29, 2015)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/senate-bill/1887>

## Sponsor

**Name:** Sen. Casey, Robert P., Jr. [D-PA]

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

## Cosponsors (4 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Grassley, Chuck [R-IA]	R · IA		Jul 29, 2015
Sen. Perdue, David [R-GA]	R · GA		Jul 29, 2015
Sen. Coons, Christopher A. [D-DE]	D · DE		Feb 2, 2016
Sen. Peters, Gary C. [D-MI]	D · MI		Mar 2, 2016

## Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Foreign Relations Committee	Senate	Referred To	Jul 29, 2015

## Subjects & Policy Tags

### Policy Area:

International Affairs

## Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
114 HR 1493	Related bill	May 9, 2016: Became Public Law No: 114-151.

## **Protect and Preserve International Cultural Property Act**

Directs the Department of State to designate a Department employee at the Assistant Secretary level or above to serve concurrently as the U.S. Coordinator for International Cultural Property Protection to:

- coordinate and promote federal agency efforts to address international cultural property protection activities;
- support activities to assist countries that are the principal sources of trafficked cultural property to protect cultural heritage sites and to prevent cultural property looting and theft;
- develop strategies to reduce illegal trade and trafficking in international cultural property in the United States and abroad, including by reducing consumer demand for such trade; and
- Chair the Coordinating Committee on International Cultural Property Protection.

Establishes a Coordinating Committee on International Cultural Property Protection to facilitate the Coordinator's work.

Directs the Department, through the U.S. Coordinator for International Cultural Property Protection, to report to Congress annually for seven years regarding activities of the U.S. Coordinator and the Coordinating Committee, the Department, the U.S. Agency for International Development, the Department of Defense, the Department of Homeland Security, and the Department of Justice to protect international cultural property.

Authorizes any agency involved in international cultural property protection activities to enter into agreements with the Smithsonian Institution to engage Smithsonian personnel temporarily to assist in such activities.

Directs the President to apply specified import restrictions with respect to any archaeological or ethnological material of Syria as if Syria were a State Party to the Convention on prohibiting and preventing the illicit import, export, and transfer of ownership of cultural property.

Sets forth the conditions for termination of such restrictions.

Authorizes the President to waive such import restrictions for specified cultural property if the President certifies to Congress that:

- the foreign owner or custodian of the specified cultural property has requested that such property be temporarily located in the United States for protection purposes,
- such property shall be returned upon request to the foreign owner or custodian, and
- the grant of a waiver will not contribute to illegal trafficking in cultural property or financing of criminal or terrorist activities.

## **Actions Timeline**

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- **Jul 29, 2015:** Introduced in Senate
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