

S 2121

Preserving American Access to Information Act

Congress: 114 (2015–2017, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Government Operations and Politics

Introduced: Oct 1, 2015

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs. (Oct 1, 2015)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/senate-bill/2121>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Shaheen, Jeanne [D-NH]

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

Cosponsors

No cosponsors are listed for this bill.

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee	Senate	Referred To	Oct 1, 2015

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Government Operations and Politics

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Preserving American Access to Information Act

This bill directs: (1) the President to take appropriate actions to enhance the authority and capacity of the National Declassification Center under Executive Order 13526, or any successor executive order, to promote a government-wide strategy for the declassification of information; (2) the National Declassification Center to provide for consultation between the Center's advisory panel and the public on a regular basis; (3) federal agencies to make efforts to identify and designate historically valuable records during the initial classification process to ensure preservation and timely access to such records following eventual declassification; (4) the Public Interest Declassification Board to submit reports to Congress on pilot programs to assess the feasibility and advisability of mechanisms to improve the current declassification capabilities of such agencies; and (5) the Public Interest Declassification Board to review the rules of the Senate and the House of Representatives regarding the declassification of classified Committee records and make recommendations to improve declassification efforts.

The bill requires federal agency heads that classify information to report to Congress on an assessment of the feasibility and advisability of: (1) replacing the agency's current classification system with a two-tiered system, and (2) declassifying records with classified Formerly Restricted Data.

Actions Timeline

- **Oct 1, 2015:** Introduced in Senate
- **Oct 1, 2015:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.