

HR 300

SMART Border Act of 2015

Congress: 114 (2015–2017, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Emergency Management

Introduced: Jan 13, 2015

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Border and Maritime Security.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Border and Maritime Security. (Jan 28, 2015)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/house-bill/300>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Poe, Ted [R-TX-2]

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

Cosponsors (10 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Black, Diane [R-TN-6]	R · TN		Jan 13, 2015
Rep. Smith, Lamar [R-TX-21]	R · TX		Jan 13, 2015
Rep. McClinton, Tom [R-CA-4]	R · CA		Jan 16, 2015
Rep. Grothman, Glenn [R-WI-6]	R · WI		Jul 13, 2015
Rep. Jenkins, Lynn [R-KS-2]	R · KS		Jul 13, 2015
Rep. Fortenberry, Jeff [R-NE-1]	R · NE		Jul 15, 2015
Rep. Olson, Pete [R-TX-22]	R · TX		Jul 15, 2015
Rep. Lamborn, Doug [R-CO-5]	R · CO		Jul 16, 2015
Rep. Gosar, Paul A. [R-AZ-4]	R · AZ		Sep 10, 2015
Rep. Brooks, Mo [R-AL-5]	R · AL		Sep 16, 2015

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Agriculture Committee	House	Referred to	Jan 26, 2015
Armed Services Committee	House	Referred To	Jan 13, 2015
Energy and Commerce Committee	House	Referred to	Jan 16, 2015
Homeland Security Committee	House	Referred to	Jan 28, 2015
Rules Committee	House	Referred To	Jan 13, 2015

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Emergency Management

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Summary (as of Jan 13, 2015)

Support More Assets, Resources, and Technology on the Border Act of 2015 or the SMART Act of 2015

Directs the Secretary of Homeland Security (DHS) to: (1) take actions to achieve and maintain operational control of the U.S.-Mexico border (defined as a condition in which all illegal border crossers are apprehended and narcotics and other contraband are seized); and (2) report to the Comptroller General on such actions, achievement, and maintenance.

Directs the Comptroller General, within 90 days after such report is submitted, to: (1) consult with state and local officials along such border regarding such operational control; and (2) report on such operational control to specified congressional committees. Requires the House of Representatives and the Senate to vote on a joint resolution on the question of whether such report should be disapproved within 90 days of receiving it or such joint resolution shall be deemed passed. Requires the Comptroller General to submit an annual report on such operational control.

Directs the Secretary of Defense (DOD) to: (1) deploy up to an additional 10,000 members of the National Guard along the U.S.-Mexico border as requested by border states; and (2) provide funds to the governor of a state who submits a state border control activities plan that is approved by the Secretary and that specifies how personnel of the National Guard of such state are to be used in border control activities. Authorizes National Guard personnel to be ordered to carry out border control activities.

Authorizes: (1) the DHS Secretary to deploy smart border technologies if necessary to achieve and maintain such operational control; and (2) the Defense Secretary to transfer specified eligible equipment returned from DOD operations to federal, state, and local agencies, with preference to agencies that will use such equipment primarily to strengthen border security.

Requires the DHS Secretary: (1) if such a joint resolution of disapproval on operational control passes, to appoint an additional 1,500 Border Patrol agents; (2) make grants to sheriffs' departments along the border in Texas, Arizona, New Mexico, and California to hire additional deputies; and (3) establish the biometric entry and exit data system required under the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004.

Authorizes the DHS Secretary to make competitive grants for public-private partnerships that finance equipment and infrastructure to improve the public safety of residents of U.S. rural areas near the border by enhancing access to mobile communications for such persons.

Directs the the Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection to ensure that an individual who is apprehended unlawfully crossing, or attempting to unlawfully cross, the border into the United States is counted only once for purposes of counting border apprehensions.

Actions Timeline

- **Jan 28, 2015:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Border and Maritime Security.
- **Jan 26, 2015:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Biotechnology, Horticulture, and Research.
- **Jan 16, 2015:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Communications and Technology.
- **Jan 13, 2015:** Introduced in House
- **Jan 13, 2015:** Referred to the Committee on Homeland Security, and in addition to the Committees on Armed Services, Rules, Energy and Commerce, and Agriculture, 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.