

## HR 3279

### Open Book on Equal Access to Justice Act

**Congress:** 114 (2015–2017, Ended)

**Chamber:** House

**Policy Area:** Law

**Introduced:** Jul 29, 2015

**Current Status:** Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

**Latest Action:** Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. (Dec 1, 2015)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/house-bill/3279>

## Sponsor

**Name:** Rep. Collins, Doug [R-GA-9]

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

## Cosponsors (7 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Cohen, Steve [D-TN-9]	D · TN	Jul 29, 2015	
Rep. Gosar, Paul A. [R-AZ-4]	R · AZ	Jul 29, 2015	
Rep. Lummis, Cynthia M. [R-WY-At Large]	R · WY	Jul 29, 2015	
Rep. Peterson, Collin C. [D-MN-7]	D · MN	Jul 29, 2015	
Rep. Schrader, Kurt [D-OR-5]	D · OR	Jul 29, 2015	
Rep. Poe, Ted [R-TX-2]	R · TX	Oct 27, 2015	
Rep. Trott, David A. [R-MI-11]	R · MI	Oct 27, 2015	

## Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Judiciary Committee	House	Discharged from	Oct 22, 2015
Judiciary Committee	Senate	Referred To	Dec 1, 2015

## Subjects & Policy Tags

**Policy Area:**

Law

## Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
114 S 2012	Related bill	Sep 8, 2016: Conference held.
114 S 556	Related bill	Dec 16, 2015: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 328.
114 HR 384	Related bill	Feb 5, 2015: Referred to the Subcommittee on the Constitution and Civil Justice.

## **Open Book on Equal Access to Justice Act**

(Sec. 2) This bill amends the Equal Access to Justice Act and the federal judicial code to require the Administrative Conference of the United States to report to Congress annually for a specified period on the amount of fees and other expenses awarded to prevailing parties other than the United States in certain administrative proceedings and civil action court cases (excluding tort cases) to which the United States is a party, including settlement agreements. The reports must: (1) describe the number, nature, and amount of the awards, the claims involved in the controversy, and any other relevant information that may aid Congress in evaluating the scope and impact of such awards; and (2) be made available to the public online.

The Administrative Conference must create and maintain online searchable databases containing specified information with respect to each award, including the name of the agency involved, the name of each party to whom the award was made, the amount of the award, and the basis for finding that the position of the agency concerned was not substantially justified.

Agencies, including the Department of Justice, must provide the Administrative Conference all information requested to comply with such requirements.

### **Actions Timeline**

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- **Dec 1, 2015:** Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.
- **Nov 30, 2015:** Reported by the Committee on Judiciary. H. Rept. 114-351.
- **Nov 30, 2015:** Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 270.
- **Nov 30, 2015:** Mr. Goodlatte moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.
- **Nov 30, 2015:** Considered under suspension of the rules. (consideration: CR H8423-8426)
- **Nov 30, 2015:** DEBATE - The House proceeded with forty minutes of debate on H.R. 3279.
- **Nov 30, 2015:** Passed/agreed to in House: On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended Agreed to by voice vote.(text: CR H8423)
- **Nov 30, 2015:** On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended Agreed to by voice vote. (text: CR H8423)
- **Nov 30, 2015:** Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
- **Oct 27, 2015:** Committee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held.
- **Oct 27, 2015:** Ordered to be Reported by Voice Vote.
- **Oct 22, 2015:** Subcommittee on the Constitution and Civil Justice Discharged.
- **Sep 8, 2015:** Referred to the Subcommittee on the Constitution and Civil Justice.
- **Jul 29, 2015:** Introduced in House
- **Jul 29, 2015:** Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary.