

HR 3304

Foreign Manufacturers Legal Accountability Act of 2015

Congress: 114 (2015–2017, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Law

Introduced: Jul 29, 2015

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Biotechnology, Horticulture, and Research.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Biotechnology, Horticulture, and Research. (Aug 25, 2015)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/house-bill/3304>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Cartwright, Matt [D-PA-17]

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

Cosponsors (37 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Bonamici, Suzanne [D-OR-1]	D · OR		Jul 29, 2015
Rep. Brady, Robert A. [D-PA-1]	D · PA		Jul 29, 2015
Rep. Brownley, Julia [D-CA-26]	D · CA		Jul 29, 2015
Rep. Capuano, Michael E. [D-MA-7]	D · MA		Jul 29, 2015
Rep. Cohen, Steve [D-TN-9]	D · TN		Jul 29, 2015
Rep. DeFazio, Peter A. [D-OR-4]	D · OR		Jul 29, 2015
Rep. Doggett, Lloyd [D-TX-35]	D · TX		Jul 29, 2015
Rep. Edwards, Donna F. [D-MD-4]	D · MD		Jul 29, 2015
Rep. Ellison, Keith [D-MN-5]	D · MN		Jul 29, 2015
Rep. Eshoo, Anna G. [D-CA-18]	D · CA		Jul 29, 2015
Rep. Grayson, Alan [D-FL-9]	D · FL		Jul 29, 2015
Rep. Green, Gene [D-TX-29]	D · TX		Jul 29, 2015
Rep. Hastings, Alcee L. [D-FL-20]	D · FL		Jul 29, 2015
Rep. Higgins, Brian [D-NY-26]	D · NY		Jul 29, 2015
Rep. Jackson Lee, Sheila [D-TX-18]	D · TX		Jul 29, 2015
Rep. Johnson, Henry C. "Hank," Jr. [D-GA-4]	D · GA		Jul 29, 2015
Rep. Jones, Walter B., Jr. [R-NC-3]	R · NC		Jul 29, 2015
Rep. Kelly, Robin L. [D-IL-2]	D · IL		Jul 29, 2015
Rep. Kuster, Ann M. [D-NH-2]	D · NH		Jul 29, 2015
Rep. Langevin, James R. [D-RI-2]	D · RI		Jul 29, 2015
Rep. McCollum, Betty [D-MN-4]	D · MN		Jul 29, 2015
Rep. McGovern, James P. [D-MA-2]	D · MA		Jul 29, 2015
Rep. Murphy, Patrick [D-FL-18]	D · FL		Jul 29, 2015
Rep. Pocan, Mark [D-WI-2]	D · WI		Jul 29, 2015
Rep. Posey, Bill [R-FL-8]	R · FL		Jul 29, 2015
Rep. Ryan, Tim [D-OH-13]	D · OH		Jul 29, 2015
Rep. Sánchez, Linda T. [D-CA-38]	D · CA		Jul 29, 2015
Rep. Swalwell, Eric [D-CA-15]	D · CA		Jul 29, 2015
Rep. Turner, Michael R. [R-OH-10]	R · OH		Jul 29, 2015
Rep. Vela, Filemon [D-TX-34]	D · TX		Jul 29, 2015
Rep. Watson Coleman, Bonnie [D-NJ-12]	D · NJ		Jul 29, 2015
Rep. Yarmuth, John A. [D-KY-3]	D · KY		Jul 29, 2015
Rep. Courtney, Joe [D-CT-2]	D · CT		Jul 31, 2015
Rep. Perlmutter, Ed [D-CO-7]	D · CO		Jul 31, 2015
Rep. Garamendi, John [D-CA-3]	D · CA		Sep 25, 2015
Rep. Lynch, Stephen F. [D-MA-8]	D · MA		Oct 7, 2015
Rep. Slaughter, Louise McIntosh [D-NY-25]	D · NY		Nov 30, 2015

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Agriculture Committee	House	Referred to	Aug 25, 2015
Energy and Commerce Committee	House	Referred to	Jul 31, 2015
Ways and Means Committee	House	Referred to	Aug 12, 2015

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Law

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Summary (as of Jul 29, 2015)

Foreign Manufacturers Legal Accountability Act of 2015

Expresses the sense of Congress with respect to jurisdiction of courts in the United States over foreign manufacturers that import products into the United States.

Directs the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) (with respect to drugs, devices, cosmetics, and biological products), the Consumer Product Safety Commission (with respect to consumer products), and the Environmental Protection Agency (with respect to chemical substances, new chemical substances, and pesticides) to require foreign manufacturers and producers of such products (or components used to manufacture them), in excess of a minimum value or quantity, to establish a registered agent in the United States authorized to accept service of process on their behalf for the purpose of any state or federal regulatory proceeding or civil action in state or federal court.

Deems a foreign manufacturer or producer of products covered under this Act that registers an agent to consent to the personal jurisdiction of the state or federal courts of the state in which the agent is located for the purpose of any civil or regulatory proceeding.

Requires any person who imports into the United States a covered product manufactured or produced outside the United States to provide to the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) a declaration that to the best of the person's knowledge, with respect to the importation of each covered product, the foreign manufacturer or producer of the product has registered an agent in the United States. Directs the CBP Commissioner to prescribe related regulations.

Subjects an importer who fails to provide or files a false declaration to certain penalties.

Requires the Department of Agriculture and the FDA jointly to study the feasibility and advisability of requiring foreign producers of food distributed in commerce to establish a registered agent in the United States who is authorized to accept service of process on behalf of such producers for the purpose of all civil and regulatory actions in state and federal courts.

Requires the head of each agency cited in this Act similarly to study feasible and advisable methods of requiring foreign manufacturers or producers of component parts of covered products distributed in U.S. commerce to establish registered agents in the United States for purposes of such service of process.

Actions Timeline

- **Aug 25, 2015:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Biotechnology, Horticulture, and Research.
- **Aug 12, 2015:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Trade.
- **Jul 31, 2015:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Commerce, Manufacturing, and Trade.
- **Jul 29, 2015:** Introduced in House
- **Jul 29, 2015:** Referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, 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.