

## HR 4002

Criminal Code Improvement Act of 2015

**Congress:** 114 (2015–2017, Ended)

**Chamber:** House

**Policy Area:** Crime and Law Enforcement

**Introduced:** Nov 16, 2015

**Current Status:** Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 699.

**Latest Action:** Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 699. (Dec 23, 2016)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/house-bill/4002>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Rep. Sensenbrenner, F. James, Jr. [R-WI-5]

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

### Cosponsors (8 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Collins, Doug [R-GA-9]	R · GA		Nov 16, 2015
Rep. Conyers, John, Jr. [D-MI-13]	D · MI		Nov 16, 2015
Rep. Goodlatte, Bob [R-VA-6]	R · VA		Nov 16, 2015
Rep. Jackson Lee, Sheila [D-TX-18]	D · TX		Nov 16, 2015
Rep. Labrador, Raul R. [R-ID-1]	R · ID		Nov 16, 2015
Rep. Bishop, Mike [R-MI-8]	R · MI		Nov 18, 2015
Rep. Forbes, J. Randy [R-VA-4]	R · VA		Nov 18, 2015
Rep. Gohmert, Louie [R-TX-1]	R · TX		Jan 28, 2016

### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Judiciary Committee	House	Discharged from	Nov 17, 2015

### Subjects & Policy Tags

**Policy Area:**

Crime and Law Enforcement

### Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

(This measure has not been amended since it was introduced. The summary has been expanded because action occurred on the measure.)

### **Criminal Code Improvement Act of 2015**

(Sec. 2) This bill amends the federal criminal code to establish a default mens rea standard (i.e., a state of mind requirement) for a federal criminal offense whose defining statute does not specify a required state of mind. A conviction for such federal criminal offense requires proof that a defendant acted knowingly.

Additionally, if the offense consists of conduct that a reasonable person would not know or have reason to believe was unlawful, then a conviction requires proof that the defendant knew or had reason to believe such conduct was unlawful.

The bill establishes definitions for the terms "state" and "serious bodily injury" that are generally applicable with respect to federal criminal law. It eliminates various repeated definitions of such terms.

(Sec. 5) It eliminates references to the Canal Zone (i.e., the Panama Canal Zone).

(Sec. 6) The bill amends the federal judicial code to require the Department of Justice to develop and update, index, and publish an inventory of all federal criminal offenses, including violations of agency rules or regulations that constitute or define federal criminal offenses.

### **Actions Timeline**

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- **Dec 23, 2016:** Reported by the Committee on Judiciary. H. Rept. 114-889.
- **Dec 23, 2016:** Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 699.
- **Nov 18, 2015:** Committee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held.
- **Nov 18, 2015:** Ordered to be Reported by Voice Vote.
- **Nov 17, 2015:** Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, and Investigations Discharged.
- **Nov 16, 2015:** Introduced in House
- **Nov 16, 2015:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, and Investigations.
- **Nov 16, 2015:** Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary.