

HR 4135

Visa Waiver Program Firearms Clarification Act of 2015

Congress: 114 (2015–2017, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Crime and Law Enforcement

Introduced: Nov 30, 2015

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, and Investigations.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, and Investigations. (Jan 15, 2016)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/house-bill/4135>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Duckworth, Tammy [D-IL-8]

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

Cosponsors (30 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Cohen, Steve [D-TN-9]	D · TN		Nov 30, 2015
Rep. Engel, Eliot L. [D-NY-16]	D · NY		Nov 30, 2015
Rep. Esty, Elizabeth H. [D-CT-5]	D · CT		Nov 30, 2015
Rep. Grayson, Alan [D-FL-9]	D · FL		Nov 30, 2015
Rep. Johnson, Henry C. "Hank," Jr. [D-GA-4]	D · GA		Nov 30, 2015
Rep. Lofgren, Zoe [D-CA-19]	D · CA		Nov 30, 2015
Rep. Lowenthal, Alan S. [D-CA-47]	D · CA		Nov 30, 2015
Rep. Quigley, Mike [D-IL-5]	D · IL		Nov 30, 2015
Rep. Schiff, Adam B. [D-CA-28]	D · CA		Nov 30, 2015
Rep. Scott, David [D-GA-13]	D · GA		Nov 30, 2015
Rep. Speier, Jackie [D-CA-14]	D · CA		Nov 30, 2015
Rep. Van Hollen, Chris [D-MD-8]	D · MD		Nov 30, 2015
Rep. Foster, Bill [D-IL-11]	D · IL		Dec 1, 2015
Rep. Murphy, Patrick [D-FL-18]	D · FL		Dec 1, 2015
Rep. Nadler, Jerrold [D-NY-10]	D · NY		Dec 1, 2015
Rep. Perlmutter, Ed [D-CO-7]	D · CO		Dec 1, 2015
Rep. Swalwell, Eric [D-CA-15]	D · CA		Dec 1, 2015
Rep. Conyers, John, Jr. [D-MI-13]	D · MI		Dec 2, 2015
Rep. Jackson Lee, Sheila [D-TX-18]	D · TX		Dec 2, 2015
Rep. Carney, John C., Jr. [D-DE-At Large]	D · DE		Dec 8, 2015
Rep. Frankel, Lois [D-FL-22]	D · FL		Dec 8, 2015
Rep. Honda, Michael M. [D-CA-17]	D · CA		Dec 8, 2015
Rep. Larsen, Rick [D-WA-2]	D · WA		Dec 8, 2015
Rep. DeSaulnier, Mark [D-CA-11]	D · CA		Dec 9, 2015
Rep. Hinojosa, Ruben [D-TX-15]	D · TX		Dec 9, 2015
Rep. Meeks, Gregory W. [D-NY-5]	D · NY		Dec 10, 2015
Rep. Cummings, Elijah E. [D-MD-7]	D · MD		Dec 17, 2015
Rep. Lynch, Stephen F. [D-MA-8]	D · MA		Dec 17, 2015
Rep. Takai, Mark [D-HI-1]	D · HI		Dec 17, 2015
Rep. Delaney, John K. [D-MD-6]	D · MD		Dec 18, 2015

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Judiciary Committee	House	Referred to	Jan 15, 2016

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Crime and Law Enforcement

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
114 S 2377	Related bill	Dec 9, 2015: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. (text of measure as introduced: CR S8548-8558)
114 S 2323	Identical bill	Nov 19, 2015: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. (text of measure as introduced: CR S8164)

Summary (as of Nov 30, 2015)

Visa Waiver Program Firearms Clarification Act of 2015

The bill amends the federal criminal code to modify the eligibility of certain foreign nationals to purchase and possess firearms in the United States.

Current law prohibits firearm sale or transfer to or possession by a foreign national (i.e., alien) who is: (1) unlawfully present in the United States, or (2) lawfully present under a nonimmigrant visa (e.g., tourist visa). The prohibitions do not apply in certain circumstances.

This bill expands the prohibition to bar firearm sale or transfer to or possession by a foreign national who was lawfully admitted to the United States without a visa under the Visa Waiver Program.

The prohibitions do not apply to a foreign national lawfully admitted under the Visa Waiver Program if that foreign national is a government official or law enforcement officer, or possesses a hunting license. Additionally, such foreign national may apply for a Department of Justice waiver to allow firearm possession.

Actions Timeline

- **Jan 15, 2016:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, and Investigations.
- **Nov 30, 2015:** Introduced in House
- **Nov 30, 2015:** Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary.