

HR 4539

400 Years of African-American History Commission Act

Congress: 114 (2015–2017, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Civil Rights and Liberties, Minority Issues

Introduced: Feb 11, 2016

Current Status: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 612.

Latest Action: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 612. (Sep 6, 2016)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/house-bill/4539>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Scott, Robert C. "Bobby" [D-VA-3]

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

Cosponsors (65 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Del. Norton, Eleanor Holmes [D-DC-At Large]	D · DC		Feb 11, 2016
Del. Plaskett, Stacey E. [D-VI-At Large]	D · VI		Feb 11, 2016
Rep. Adams, Alma S. [D-NC-12]	D · NC		Feb 11, 2016
Rep. Bass, Karen [D-CA-37]	D · CA		Feb 11, 2016
Rep. Beatty, Joyce [D-OH-3]	D · OH		Feb 11, 2016
Rep. Beyer, Donald S., Jr. [D-VA-8]	D · VA		Feb 11, 2016
Rep. Blumenauer, Earl [D-OR-3]	D · OR		Feb 11, 2016
Rep. Butterfield, G. K. [D-NC-1]	D · NC		Feb 11, 2016
Rep. Carson, Andre [D-IN-7]	D · IN		Feb 11, 2016
Rep. Castor, Kathy [D-FL-14]	D · FL		Feb 11, 2016
Rep. Cleaver, Emanuel [D-MO-5]	D · MO		Feb 11, 2016
Rep. Cohen, Steve [D-TN-9]	D · TN		Feb 11, 2016
Rep. Connolly, Gerald E. [D-VA-11]	D · VA		Feb 11, 2016
Rep. Conyers, John, Jr. [D-MI-13]	D · MI		Feb 11, 2016
Rep. Cummings, Elijah E. [D-MD-7]	D · MD		Feb 11, 2016
Rep. Davis, Danny K. [D-IL-7]	D · IL		Feb 11, 2016
Rep. Doggett, Lloyd [D-TX-35]	D · TX		Feb 11, 2016
Rep. Edwards, Donna F. [D-MD-4]	D · MD		Feb 11, 2016
Rep. Fattah, Chaka [D-PA-2]	D · PA		Feb 11, 2016
Rep. Forbes, J. Randy [R-VA-4]	R · VA		Feb 11, 2016
Rep. Fudge, Marcia L. [D-OH-11]	D · OH		Feb 11, 2016
Rep. Green, Al [D-TX-9]	D · TX		Feb 11, 2016
Rep. Gutierrez, Luis V. [D-IL-4]	D · IL		Feb 11, 2016
Rep. Hastings, Alcee L. [D-FL-20]	D · FL		Feb 11, 2016
Rep. Honda, Michael M. [D-CA-17]	D · CA		Feb 11, 2016
Rep. Huffman, Jared [D-CA-2]	D · CA		Feb 11, 2016
Rep. Jackson Lee, Sheila [D-TX-18]	D · TX		Feb 11, 2016
Rep. Jeffries, Hakeem S. [D-NY-8]	D · NY		Feb 11, 2016
Rep. Johnson, Eddie Bernice [D-TX-30]	D · TX		Feb 11, 2016
Rep. Johnson, Henry C. "Hank," Jr. [D-GA-4]	D · GA		Feb 11, 2016
Rep. Kildee, Daniel T. [D-MI-5]	D · MI		Feb 11, 2016
Rep. Lawrence, Brenda L. [D-MI-14]	D · MI		Feb 11, 2016
Rep. Lee, Barbara [D-CA-13]	D · CA		Feb 11, 2016
Rep. Lewis, John [D-GA-5]	D · GA		Feb 11, 2016
Rep. Maloney, Sean Patrick [D-NY-18]	D · NY		Feb 11, 2016
Rep. McCollum, Betty [D-MN-4]	D · MN		Feb 11, 2016
Rep. Meeks, Gregory W. [D-NY-5]	D · NY		Feb 11, 2016
Rep. Moore, Gwen [D-WI-4]	D · WI		Feb 11, 2016
Rep. Murphy, Patrick [D-FL-18]	D · FL		Feb 11, 2016
Rep. Norcross, Donald [D-NJ-1]	D · NJ		Feb 11, 2016
Rep. Rangel, Charles B. [D-NY-13]	D · NY		Feb 11, 2016

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Richmond, Cedric L. [D-LA-2]	D · LA		Feb 11, 2016
Rep. Rigell, E. Scott [R-VA-2]	R · VA		Feb 11, 2016
Rep. Rush, Bobby L. [D-IL-1]	D · IL		Feb 11, 2016
Rep. Scott, David [D-GA-13]	D · GA		Feb 11, 2016
Rep. Smith, Adam [D-WA-9]	D · WA		Feb 11, 2016
Rep. Thompson, Bennie G. [D-MS-2]	D · MS		Feb 11, 2016
Rep. Van Hollen, Chris [D-MD-8]	D · MD		Feb 11, 2016
Rep. Wasserman Schultz, Debbie [D-FL-23]	D · FL		Feb 11, 2016
Rep. Watson Coleman, Bonnie [D-NJ-12]	D · NJ		Feb 11, 2016
Rep. Wittman, Robert J. [R-VA-1]	R · VA		Feb 11, 2016
Rep. Delaney, John K. [D-MD-6]	D · MD		Feb 23, 2016
Rep. Price, David E. [D-NC-4]	D · NC		Feb 23, 2016
Rep. Duckworth, Tammy [D-IL-8]	D · IL		Feb 26, 2016
Rep. Ellison, Keith [D-MN-5]	D · MN		Feb 26, 2016
Rep. Crowley, Joseph [D-NY-14]	D · NY		Apr 19, 2016
Rep. Bishop, Sanford D., Jr. [D-GA-2]	D · GA		Apr 21, 2016
Rep. Brown, Corrine [D-FL-5]	D · FL		Apr 21, 2016
Rep. Clarke, Yvette D. [D-NY-9]	D · NY		Apr 21, 2016
Rep. Clay, Wm. Lacy [D-MO-1]	D · MO		Apr 21, 2016
Rep. Clyburn, James E. [D-SC-6]	D · SC		Apr 21, 2016
Rep. Kelly, Robin L. [D-IL-2]	D · IL		Apr 21, 2016
Rep. Veasey, Marc A. [D-TX-33]	D · TX		Apr 21, 2016
Rep. Wilson, Frederica S. [D-FL-24]	D · FL		Apr 21, 2016
Rep. Comstock, Barbara [R-VA-10]	R · VA		Apr 29, 2016

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Energy and Natural Resources Committee	Senate	Reported By	Sep 6, 2016
Oversight and Government Reform Committee	House	Referred To	Feb 11, 2016

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Civil Rights and Liberties, Minority Issues

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
114 S 2548	Identical bill	Sep 13, 2016: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 626.

(This measure has not been amended since it was passed by the House on July 5, 2016. The summary of that version is repeated here.)

400 Years of African-American History Commission Act

(Sec. 3) This bill establishes the 400 Years of African-American History Commission to develop and carry out activities throughout the United States to commemorate the 400th anniversary of the arrival of Africans in the English colonies at Point Comfort, Virginia, in 1619.

The commission must:

- plan programs to acknowledge the impact that slavery and laws that enforced racial discrimination had on the United States;
- encourage civic, patriotic, historical, educational, artistic, religious, and economic organizations to organize and participate in anniversary activities;
- assist states, localities, and nonprofit organizations to further the commemoration; and
- coordinate for the public scholarly research on the arrival of Africans in the United States and their contributions to this country.

(Sec. 5) The commission may provide: (1) grants to communities and nonprofit organizations for the development of programs; (2) grants to research and scholarly organizations to research, publish, or distribute information relating to the arrival of Africans in the United States; and (3) technical assistance to states, localities, and nonprofit organizations to further the commemoration.

(Sec. 7) The commission must prepare a strategic plan and submit a final report to Congress that contains a summary of its activities, an accounting of funds it received and expended, and its recommendations.

(Sec. 8) The commission shall terminate on July 1, 2020.

Actions Timeline

- **Sep 6, 2016:** Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. Reported by Senator Murkowski without amendment. With written report No. 114-341.
- **Sep 6, 2016:** Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 612.
- **Jul 13, 2016:** Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. Ordered to be reported without amendment favorably.
- **Jul 6, 2016:** Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.
- **Jul 5, 2016:** Mr. Chaffetz moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.
- **Jul 5, 2016:** Considered under suspension of the rules. (consideration: CR H4260-4263)
- **Jul 5, 2016:** DEBATE - The House proceeded with forty minutes of debate on H.R. 4539.
- **Jul 5, 2016:** Passed/agreed to in House: On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended Agreed to by voice vote.(text: CR H4260-4262)
- **Jul 5, 2016:** On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended Agreed to by voice vote. (text: CR H4260-4262)
- **Jul 5, 2016:** Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
- **Feb 11, 2016:** Introduced in House
- **Feb 11, 2016:** Referred to the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.