

HR 5104

BOTS Act

Congress: 114 (2015–2017, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Commerce

Introduced: Apr 28, 2016

Current Status: Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transp

Latest Action: Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. (Sep 13, 2016)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/house-bill/5104>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Blackburn, Marsha [R-TN-7]

Party: Republican • **State:** TN • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (18 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Bishop, Mike [R-MI-8]	R · MI		Apr 28, 2016
Rep. Burgess, Michael C. [R-TX-26]	R · TX		Apr 28, 2016
Rep. Byrne, Bradley [R-AL-1]	R · AL		Apr 28, 2016
Rep. Cárdenas, Tony [D-CA-29]	D · CA		Apr 28, 2016
Rep. Cohen, Steve [D-TN-9]	D · TN		Apr 28, 2016
Rep. Cooper, Jim [D-TN-5]	D · TN		Apr 28, 2016
Rep. Costello, Ryan A. [R-PA-6]	R · PA		Apr 28, 2016
Rep. DesJarlais, Scott [R-TN-4]	R · TN		Apr 28, 2016
Rep. Harper, Gregg [R-MS-3]	R · MS		Apr 28, 2016
Rep. Israel, Steve [D-NY-3]	D · NY		Apr 28, 2016
Rep. Jenkins, Lynn [R-KS-2]	R · KS		Apr 28, 2016
Rep. Nadler, Jerrold [D-NY-10]	D · NY		Apr 28, 2016
Rep. Ross, Dennis A. [R-FL-15]	R · FL		Apr 28, 2016
Rep. Tiberi, Patrick J. [R-OH-12]	R · OH		Apr 28, 2016
Rep. Tonko, Paul [D-NY-20]	D · NY		Apr 28, 2016
Rep. Huffman, Jared [D-CA-2]	D · CA		May 27, 2016
Rep. McNerney, Jerry [D-CA-9]	D · CA		May 27, 2016
Rep. Maloney, Carolyn B. [D-NY-12]	D · NY		Jul 6, 2016

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee	Senate	Referred To	Sep 13, 2016
Energy and Commerce Committee	House	Reported by	Jun 9, 2016

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Commerce

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
114 S 3183	Related bill	Dec 14, 2016: Became Public Law No: 114-274.
114 HR 5245	Related bill	May 20, 2016: Referred to the Subcommittee on Commerce, Manufacturing, and Trade.
114 HR 708	Related bill	Mar 16, 2015: Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, and Investigations.

Summary (as of Sep 12, 2016)

(This measure has not been amended since it was reported to the House on September 9, 2016. The summary of that version is repeated here.)

Better On-line Ticket Sales Act of 2016 or the BOTS Act

(Sec. 2) This bill prohibits the sale of computer software that: (1) is primarily designed to circumvent technology that limits purchases made via an online ticket selling system, (2) has only a limited commercially significant purpose other than for such circumvention, or (3) is marketed to use for such circumvention.

The bill also prohibits the use of such circumvention software in violation of a system operator's posted limits on: (1) the quantity of tickets purchased by a single user; (2) the sequence, number, or frequency of transactions; or (3) the geographic location of transactions.

In addition, the bill makes it unlawful to resell in commerce tickets that were acquired through such a prohibited use of circumvention software if the reseller participated in, had the ability to control, or should have known about the violation.

It shall not be unlawful, however, to create or use software to: (1) investigate or further the enforcement or defense of any alleged violation of this bill, or (2) identify and analyze flaws and vulnerabilities of a computerized event ticketing system if these activities are conducted to advance the state of knowledge in the field of computer system security or to assist in the development of computer security products.

Violations shall be treated as unfair and deceptive acts or practices under the Federal Trade Commission Act.

The Federal Trade Commission and state attorneys general may enforce against violations.

Actions Timeline

- **Sep 13, 2016:** Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.
- **Sep 12, 2016:** Mr. Burgess moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.
- **Sep 12, 2016:** Considered under suspension of the rules. (consideration: CR H5292-5295)
- **Sep 12, 2016:** DEBATE - The House proceeded with forty minutes of debate on H.R. 5104.
- **Sep 12, 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 H5292-5293)
- **Sep 12, 2016:** On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended Agreed to by voice vote. (text: CR H5292-5293)
- **Sep 12, 2016:** Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
- **Sep 9, 2016:** Reported (Amended) by the Committee on Energy and Commerce. H. Rept. 114-733.
- **Sep 9, 2016:** Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 569.
- **Jul 13, 2016:** Committee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held.
- **Jul 13, 2016:** Ordered to be Reported by Voice Vote.
- **Jul 12, 2016:** Committee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held.
- **Jun 9, 2016:** Subcommittee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held.
- **Jun 9, 2016:** Forwarded by Subcommittee to Full Committee (Amended) by Voice Vote .
- **Jun 8, 2016:** Subcommittee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held.
- **Apr 29, 2016:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Commerce, Manufacturing, and Trade.
- **Apr 28, 2016:** Introduced in House
- **Apr 28, 2016:** Referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.