

S 568

Trade Adjustment Assistance Act of 2015

Congress: 114 (2015–2017, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Foreign Trade and International Finance

Introduced: Feb 25, 2015

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance. (Feb 25, 2015)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/senate-bill/568>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Brown, Sherrod [D-OH]

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

Cosponsors (41 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Baldwin, Tammy [D-WI]	D · WI		Feb 25, 2015
Sen. Bennet, Michael F. [D-CO]	D · CO		Feb 25, 2015
Sen. Cantwell, Maria [D-WA]	D · WA		Feb 25, 2015
Sen. Cardin, Benjamin L. [D-MD]	D · MD		Feb 25, 2015
Sen. Casey, Robert P., Jr. [D-PA]	D · PA		Feb 25, 2015
Sen. Durbin, Richard J. [D-IL]	D · IL		Feb 25, 2015
Sen. Gillibrand, Kirsten E. [D-NY]	D · NY		Feb 25, 2015
Sen. Klobuchar, Amy [D-MN]	D · MN		Feb 25, 2015
Sen. Markey, Edward J. [D-MA]	D · MA		Feb 25, 2015
Sen. Menendez, Robert [D-NJ]	D · NJ		Feb 25, 2015
Sen. Murray, Patty [D-WA]	D · WA		Feb 25, 2015
Sen. Reed, Jack [D-RI]	D · RI		Feb 25, 2015
Sen. Sanders, Bernard [I-VT]	I · VT		Feb 25, 2015
Sen. Schumer, Charles E. [D-NY]	D · NY		Feb 25, 2015
Sen. Stabenow, Debbie [D-MI]	D · MI		Feb 25, 2015
Sen. Warner, Mark R. [D-VA]	D · VA		Feb 25, 2015
Sen. Warren, Elizabeth [D-MA]	D · MA		Feb 25, 2015
Sen. Blumenthal, Richard [D-CT]	D · CT		Feb 26, 2015
Sen. Franken, Al [D-MN]	D · MN		Feb 26, 2015
Sen. Kaine, Tim [D-VA]	D · VA		Feb 26, 2015
Sen. Peters, Gary C. [D-MI]	D · MI		Feb 26, 2015
Sen. Whitehouse, Sheldon [D-RI]	D · RI		Feb 26, 2015
Sen. Hirono, Mazie K. [D-HI]	D · HI		Feb 27, 2015
Sen. Merkley, Jeff [D-OR]	D · OR		Feb 27, 2015
Sen. Shaheen, Jeanne [D-NH]	D · NH		Feb 27, 2015
Sen. Donnelly, Joe [D-IN]	D · IN		Mar 4, 2015
Sen. King, Angus S., Jr. [I-ME]	I · ME		Mar 4, 2015
Sen. Murphy, Christopher [D-CT]	D · CT		Mar 4, 2015
Sen. Schatz, Brian [D-HI]	D · HI		Mar 4, 2015
Sen. Booker, Cory A. [D-NJ]	D · NJ		Mar 9, 2015
Sen. Boxer, Barbara [D-CA]	D · CA		Mar 12, 2015
Sen. Leahy, Patrick J. [D-VT]	D · VT		Mar 12, 2015
Sen. Manchin, Joe, III [D-WV]	D · WV		Mar 12, 2015
Sen. McCaskill, Claire [D-MO]	D · MO		Mar 12, 2015
Sen. Tester, Jon [D-MT]	D · MT		Mar 12, 2015
Sen. Coons, Christopher A. [D-DE]	D · DE		Mar 23, 2015
Sen. Mikulski, Barbara A. [D-MD]	D · MD		Mar 26, 2015
Sen. Reid, Harry [D-NV]	D · NV		Mar 26, 2015
Sen. Udall, Tom [D-NM]	D · NM		Mar 26, 2015
Sen. Heinrich, Martin [D-NM]	D · NM		Apr 13, 2015
Sen. Heitkamp, Heidi [D-ND]	D · ND		Apr 13, 2015

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Finance Committee	Senate	Referred To	Feb 25, 2015

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Foreign Trade and International Finance

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
114 S 1268	Related bill	May 12, 2015: By Senator Hatch from Committee on Finance filed written report. Report No. 114-44.
114 HR 1892	Related bill	May 8, 2015: Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 76.
114 HR 1088	Identical bill	Apr 29, 2015: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health, Employment, Labor, and Pensions.
114 S 1003	Related bill	Apr 16, 2015: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance. (Sponsor introductory remarks on measure: CR S2296-2297))

Trade Adjustment Assistance Act of 2015

Amends the Trade Adjustment Assistance Extension Act of 2011 to repeal the declaration that trade adjustment assistance (TAA) program requirements in effect as of February 13, 2011, under the Trade Act of 1974 shall apply to petitions for certification to apply for TAA for workers, firms, and farmers that are filed before January 1, 2014.

Amends the Trade Act of 1974 to extend through December 31, 2020: (1) the TAA program, and (2) the reemployment trade adjustment assistance (RTAA) program.

Makes funds available through FY2020, and for the period beginning October 1-December 31, 2020 (first quarter of FY2021), for training of adversely affected workers, employment and case management services, and job search expenses and relocation expenses.

Reauthorizes appropriations: (1) through December 31, 2020, for the TAA program for workers; and (2) through FY2020, and for the first quarter of FY2021, for the TAA program for firms, communities, and farmers.

Prescribes TAA eligibility requirements for adversely affected workers in public agencies.

Revises trade readjustment allowance (TRA) program requirements.

Increases from 65 to 78 additional weeks of TRA payments in a 91-week period the length of additional time permissible to complete training.

Repeals the authority of a state to use funds for employment and case management services and relocation allowances to allow an adversely affected worker who is certified to file an application for a job search allowance and relocation allowance. (Continues to authorize adversely affected workers to apply for the job search allowance as well as the relocation allowance.)

Increases from \$1,250 to \$1,500 the maximum job search allowance and maximum relocation allowance that may be granted to an adversely affected worker.

Revises the reemployment trade adjustment assistance (RTAA) program.

Increases from: (1) \$50,000 to \$55,000 the maximum amount an RTAA-eligible worker may earn in wages from reemployment, and (2) \$10,000 to \$12,000 the maximum payment of RTAA (or wage subsidy) to an eligible older worker.

Specifies criteria the Secretary must use to determine the eligibility of workers to apply for TAA if no determination has been made, upon enactment of this Act, as to whether to certify a group of workers or firms as eligible pursuant to a petition filed between January 1, 2014, and enactment of this Act. Requires the Secretary to reconsider any determination made before enactment of this Act not to certify such workers or firms, and to certify them as eligible if they meet the specified requirements.

Amends the Internal Revenue Code to extend through calendar 2021, and increase from 72.5% to 80%, the tax credit for the health insurance coverage costs of Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation (PBGC) pension and TAA recipients and their dependents.

Amends the Internal Revenue Code, the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, and the Public Health

Service Act to extend through December 31, 2020, the TAA pre-certification period rule disregarding, for a specified period, any 63-day lapse in creditable health care coverage for TAA workers.

Extends also through December 31, 2020, the continued eligibility of certain qualified TAA-eligible individuals and PBGC pension recipients for COBRA premium assistance.

Actions Timeline

- **Feb 25, 2015:** Introduced in Senate
- **Feb 25, 2015:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.