

## HR 917

Sunshine in the Courtroom Act of 2015

**Congress:** 114 (2015–2017, Ended)

**Chamber:** House

**Policy Area:** Law

**Introduced:** Feb 12, 2015

**Current Status:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual Property, and the Internet.

**Latest Action:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual Property, and the Internet. (Mar 16, 2015)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/house-bill/917>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Rep. King, Steve [R-IA-4]

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

### Cosponsors (3 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Chaffetz, Jason [R-UT-3]	R · UT		Feb 12, 2015
Rep. Deutch, Theodore E. [D-FL-21]	D · FL		Feb 12, 2015
Rep. Lynch, Stephen F. [D-MA-8]	D · MA		Mar 10, 2015

### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Judiciary Committee	House	Referred to	Mar 16, 2015

### Subjects & Policy Tags

**Policy Area:**

Law

### Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
114 HR 3723	Related bill	Nov 3, 2015: Referred to the Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual Property, and the Internet.
114 S 783	Related bill	Mar 18, 2015: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. (Sponsor introductory remarks on measure: CR S1631; text of measure as introduced: CR S1631-1632)

## **Sunshine in the Courtroom Act of 2015**

Authorizes the presiding judge of a U.S. appellate court (including the Supreme Court) or U.S. district court to permit the photographing, electronic recording, broadcasting, or televising to the public of court proceedings over which that judge presides, except when such action would constitute a violation of the due process rights of any party.

Directs: (1) a district court, upon the request of any witness in a trial proceeding other than a party, to order the face and voice of the witness to be disguised or otherwise obscured to render the witness unrecognizable for purposes of photographing, recording, broadcasting, or televising the witness; and (2) the presiding judge in a trial proceeding to inform each witness who is not a party of the right to make such request.

Authorizes the Judicial Conference to promulgate mandatory guidelines with respect to the management and administration of photographing, recording, broadcasting, or televising described in this Act.

Terminates a district court's authority under this Act three years after enactment of this Act.

## **Actions Timeline**

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- **Mar 16, 2015:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual Property, and the Internet.
- **Feb 12, 2015:** Introduced in House
- **Feb 12, 2015:** Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary.