

S 1502

Cruise Passenger Protection Act of 2017

Congress: 115 (2017–2019, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Transportation and Public Works

Introduced: Jun 29, 2017

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. (Jun 29, 2017)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/senate-bill/1502>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Blumenthal, Richard [D-CT]

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

Cosponsors (1 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Markey, Edward J. [D-MA]	D · MA		Jun 29, 2017

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee	Senate	Referred To	Jun 29, 2017

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Transportation and Public Works

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
115 HR 2173	Related bill	Apr 27, 2017: Referred to the Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation.
115 S 965	Related bill	Apr 27, 2017: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

Cruise Passenger Protection Act of 2017

This bill amends federal shipping law to direct the Department of Transportation (DOT) to develop standards for cruise ship owners to provide passengers with a conspicuous and unambiguous summary of key terms of passage contracts before they are binding. Vessel owners must provide each passenger with a summary meeting those standards and include the summary in promotional literature. The bill prescribes civil and criminal penalties for violations.

DOT must: (1) establish a hotline for passenger complaints, (2) determine whether any of the enumerated rights in the international cruise line passenger bill of rights are enforceable under federal law, and (3) establish an advisory committee for passenger vessel consumer protection.

Vessel owners must ensure that a vessel is staffed with sea marshals and medical staff.

DOT must:

- designate a director of victim support services,
- establish a 24-hour telephone number for crime victims,
- develop a written summary of rights for crime victims,
- maintain a statistical compilation of reported incidents, and
- study the feasibility of having an individual on board each vessel to provide victim support and related services.

The Department of Homeland Security must withhold or revoke the clearance of, and the Coast Guard may deny entry into the United States to, any vessel owner who commits an act or omission for which a penalty is imposed under this bill or fails to pay the penalty.

Actions Timeline

- **Jun 29, 2017:** Introduced in Senate
- **Jun 29, 2017:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.