

HR 1888

Federal Spectrum Incentive Act of 2017

Congress: 115 (2017–2019, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Science, Technology, Communications

Introduced: Apr 4, 2017

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities. (Apr 24, 2017)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/1888>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Guthrie, Brett [R-KY-2]

Party: Republican • State: KY • Chamber: House

Cosponsors (1 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Matsui, Doris O. [D-CA-6]	D · CA		Apr 4, 2017

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Armed Services Committee	House	Referred to	Apr 24, 2017
Energy and Commerce Committee	House	Referred to	Apr 7, 2017

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Science, Technology, Communications

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Federal Spectrum Incentive Act of 2017

This bill amends the National Telecommunications and Information Administration Organization Act to allow federal entities that utilize government station licenses to participate in the incentive auction program under which licensees of electromagnetic spectrum voluntarily relinquish their spectrum rights in order for such spectrum to be auctioned for a repurposed commercial use in exchange for a percentage of the auction proceeds.

Instead of being reimbursed for the costs of sharing frequencies with nonfederal users or relocating to other frequencies as provided for under current law, such federal entities may receive a percentage of the proceeds from spectrum it relinquishes for auction by electing to: (1) discontinue operations on eligible frequencies without relocating to other frequencies, or (2) relocate operations to frequencies assigned to another federal entity in order for such entities to share frequencies.

The bill establishes in the Treasury a Federal Spectrum Incentive Fund to be administered by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) in consultation with the National Telecommunications and Information Administration.

The bill requires 1% of the proceeds from such auctions to be deposited in such fund and the remainder to be deposited in the general fund of the Treasury for the sole purpose of deficit reduction.

OMB must transfer from the fund to a federal entity a specified amount attributable to the auction of frequencies vacated by such entity. Federal entities may use such amounts for: (1) any purposes permitted under the terms and conditions of an appropriations account that was subject to sequestration for any fiscal year under the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, provided that the amount used does not exceed the amount by which the account was reduced by sequestration for such fiscal year; or (2) a transfer of amounts to an incumbent federal entity for such purposes when the federal entity relinquishing spectrum relocates its operations to frequencies assigned to another federal entity in order to share frequencies.

Actions Timeline

- **Apr 24, 2017:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities.
- **Apr 7, 2017:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Communications and Technology.
- **Apr 4, 2017:** Introduced in House
- **Apr 4, 2017:** Referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Armed Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.