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Federal Bird-Safe Buildings Act of 2017

Congress: 115 (2017–2019, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Government Operations and Politics

Introduced: Oct 4, 2017

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works. (Oct 4, 2017)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/senate-bill/1920>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Booker, Cory A. [D-NJ]

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

Cosponsors (2 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Udall, Tom [D-NM]	D · NM		Jan 16, 2018
Sen. Heinrich, Martin [D-NM]	D · NM		Aug 16, 2018

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Environment and Public Works Committee	Senate	Referred To	Oct 4, 2017

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Government Operations and Politics

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
115 HR 2542	Related bill	May 19, 2017: Referred to the Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings and Emergency Management.

Federal Bird-Safe Buildings Act of 2017

This bill requires each public building constructed, substantially altered, or acquired by the General Services Administration (GSA) to meet the following standards:

- at least 90% of the exposed facade material from ground level to 40 feet shall not be composed of glass or shall be composed of glass employing elements that preclude bird collisions without completely obscuring vision, ultraviolet (UV) patterned glass that contains UV-reflective or contrasting patterns that are visible to birds, patterns on glass designed in accordance with a rule that restricts horizontal spaces to less than 2 inches high and vertical spaces to less than 4 inches wide, opaque, etched, stained, frosted, or translucent glass, or any combination of these methods (modified glass);
- at least 60% of the exposed facade material above 40 feet shall meet such glass standard;
- there shall not be any transparent passageways or corners;
- all glass adjacent to atria or courtyards containing water features, plants, and other materials attractive to birds shall meet the modified glass standard; and
- outside lighting shall be appropriately shielded and minimized.

GSA must: (1) ensure that actual bird mortality is monitored at each public building; and (2) reduce exterior building and site lighting for each public building, where practicable.

The bill exempts historic buildings of national significance, the White House and grounds, the Supreme Court building and grounds, and the U.S. Capitol and related buildings and grounds from the provisions of this bill.

Actions Timeline

- **Oct 4, 2017:** Introduced in Senate
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