

HR 2176

Asia-Pacific Defense Commission Act

Congress: 115 (2017–2019, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: International Affairs

Introduced: Apr 26, 2017

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific. (May 18, 2017)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/2176>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Murphy, Stephanie N. [D-FL-7]

Party: Democratic • **State:** FL • **Chamber:** House

Cosponsors (12 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Del. Bordallo, Madeleine Z. [D-GU-At Large]	D · GU		Apr 26, 2017
Rep. Castro, Joaquin [D-TX-20]	D · TX		Apr 26, 2017
Rep. DelBene, Suzan K. [D-WA-1]	D · WA		Apr 26, 2017
Rep. Gallego, Ruben [D-AZ-7]	D · AZ		Apr 26, 2017
Rep. Hanabusa, Colleen [D-HI-1]	D · HI		Apr 26, 2017
Rep. Moulton, Seth [D-MA-6]	D · MA		Apr 27, 2017
Rep. Sinema, Kyrsten [D-AZ-9]	D · AZ		Apr 28, 2017
Rep. Hastings, Alcee L. [D-FL-20]	D · FL		May 1, 2017
Rep. Swalwell, Eric [D-CA-15]	D · CA		May 4, 2017
Rep. Coffman, Mike [R-CO-6]	R · CO		May 11, 2017
Rep. Veasey, Marc A. [D-TX-33]	D · TX		May 24, 2017
Rep. Keating, William R. [D-MA-9]	D · MA		May 30, 2017

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Armed Services Committee	House	Referred To	Apr 26, 2017
Foreign Affairs Committee	House	Referred to	May 18, 2017

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

International Affairs

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Asia-Pacific Defense Commission Act

This bill declares that it is U.S policy to continue to maintain a strong military posture in the Asia-Pacific region in order to reassure U.S. allies, deter aggression, and respond swiftly to crises.

The Department of Defense (DOD) shall seek opportunities to enhance military training and exercises with U.S. allies in such region.

The bill authorizes the President to establish the Asia-Pacific Defense Commission to strengthen cooperation between the United States and its allies in such region to combat joint threats.

The commission may undertake activities to:

- strengthen counterterrorism operations and building capacity to track, investigate, and prosecute individuals engaged in terrorist activities;
- improve regional maritime security and capabilities to interdict illegal arms shipments;
- bolster regional cybersecurity initiatives and protect critical infrastructure;
- strengthen military preparedness;
- facilitate defense-related transfers, subject to the requirements of the Arms Export Control Act;
- facilitate efforts to enhance training, preparedness, and operations by allies to address North Korean maritime weapons transfers; and
- coordinate intelligence collected by the intelligence services of the countries participating in the commission, identify the most immediate threats to inform the security services of such countries, and create guidelines for the coordination of multilateral direct action against shared threats.

Calls for the U.S. Navy to regularize freedom of navigation operations, in accordance with international law, in the Japanese-administered Senkaku Islands, in the South China Sea, and in regular ports of call at strategic ports in the Asia-Pacific region.

Actions Timeline

- **May 18, 2017:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific.
- **Apr 26, 2017:** Introduced in House
- **Apr 26, 2017:** Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR H2852-2853)
- **Apr 26, 2017:** Referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, 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.