

HR 2432

Volunteer Organization Protection Act of 2017

Congress: 115 (2017–2019, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Law

Introduced: May 16, 2017

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on the Constitution and Civil Justice.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on the Constitution and Civil Justice. (Jun 7, 2017)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/2432>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Chabot, Steve [R-OH-1]

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

Cosponsors (37 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Abraham, Ralph Lee [R-LA-5]	R · LA		May 16, 2017
Rep. Barletta, Lou [R-PA-11]	R · PA		May 16, 2017
Rep. Bishop, Mike [R-MI-8]	R · MI		May 16, 2017
Rep. Brooks, Mo [R-AL-5]	R · AL		May 16, 2017
Rep. Bucshon, Larry [R-IN-8]	R · IN		May 16, 2017
Rep. Calvert, Ken [R-CA-42]	R · CA		May 16, 2017
Rep. Cramer, Kevin [R-ND-At Large]	R · ND		May 16, 2017
Rep. DesJarlais, Scott [R-TN-4]	R · TN		May 16, 2017
Rep. Emmer, Tom [R-MN-6]	R · MN		May 16, 2017
Rep. Farenthold, Blake [R-TX-27]	R · TX		May 16, 2017
Rep. Faso, John J. [R-NY-19]	R · NY		May 16, 2017
Rep. Franks, Trent [R-AZ-8]	R · AZ		May 16, 2017
Rep. Hensarling, Jeb [R-TX-5]	R · TX		May 16, 2017
Rep. Herrera Beutler, Jaime [R-WA-3]	R · WA		May 16, 2017
Rep. Hice, Jody B. [R-GA-10]	R · GA		May 16, 2017
Rep. Huizenga, Bill [R-MI-2]	R · MI		May 16, 2017
Rep. Johnson, Sam [R-TX-3]	R · TX		May 16, 2017
Rep. King, Steve [R-IA-4]	R · IA		May 16, 2017
Rep. Latta, Robert E. [R-OH-5]	R · OH		May 16, 2017
Rep. Marino, Tom [R-PA-10]	R · PA		May 16, 2017
Rep. Ratcliffe, John [R-TX-4]	R · TX		May 16, 2017
Rep. Roe, David P. [R-TN-1]	R · TN		May 16, 2017
Rep. Roskam, Peter J. [R-IL-6]	R · IL		May 16, 2017
Rep. Sessions, Pete [R-TX-32]	R · TX		May 16, 2017
Rep. Walberg, Tim [R-MI-7]	R · MI		May 16, 2017
Rep. Walorski, Jackie [R-IN-2]	R · IN		May 16, 2017
Rep. Stefanik, Elise M. [R-NY-21]	R · NY		May 17, 2017
Rep. Murphy, Tim [R-PA-18]	R · PA		May 25, 2017
Rep. Collins, Chris [R-NY-27]	R · NY		Jun 8, 2017
Rep. King, Peter T. [R-NY-2]	R · NY		Jun 16, 2017
Rep. Peterson, Collin C. [D-MN-7]	D · MN		Jun 28, 2017
Rep. Thompson, Glenn [R-PA-5]	R · PA		Jul 18, 2017
Rep. Lamborn, Doug [R-CO-5]	R · CO		Jul 26, 2017
Rep. Wenstrup, Brad R. [R-OH-2]	R · OH		Oct 3, 2017
Rep. Jenkins, Evan H. [R-WV-3]	R · WV		May 23, 2018
Rep. Sires, Albio [D-NJ-8]	D · NJ		May 23, 2018
Rep. Holding, George [R-NC-2]	R · NC		Jun 25, 2018

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Judiciary Committee	House	Referred to	Jun 7, 2017

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Law

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Summary (as of May 16, 2017)

Volunteer Organization Protection Act of 2017

This bill amends the Volunteer Protection Act of 1997 to expand liability protections to volunteer nonprofit organizations for harm caused by an act or omission of a volunteer on behalf of the organization.

The bill prohibits such liability protections from applying if the organization: (1) would be liable under laws governing the direct or vicarious liability of organizations, and (2) expressly authorized the specific conduct constituting the act or omission.

The bill bars such an organization from liability for harm caused by the organization, or a volunteer acting on its behalf, if the act or omission was at the request of, or pursuant to an authorization by, a state, the United States, or another governmental subdivision, provided that: (1) the requesting or authorizing governmental entity would have been immune either from suit or from liability in damages if it had engaged in the acts or omissions itself or through employees or independent contractors; or (2) the governmental employee, agent, or contractor would have been immune either from suit or from liability in damages by virtue of immunity extended to individual governmental actors.

The bill prohibits punitive damages from being awarded against a volunteer nonprofit organization for the actions of a volunteer within the scope of the volunteer's responsibilities to the organization unless the claimant establishes by clear and convincing evidence that the organization itself expressly authorized the volunteer's action with a conscious, flagrant indifference to the rights or safety of the individual harmed.

Actions Timeline

- **Jun 7, 2017:** Referred to the Subcommittee on the Constitution and Civil Justice.
- **May 16, 2017:** Introduced in House
- **May 16, 2017:** Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary.