

HR 3444

Food Recovery Act of 2017

Congress: 115 (2017–2019, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Agriculture and Food

Introduced: Jul 27, 2017

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health. (Jul 28, 2017)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/3444>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Pingree, Chellie [D-ME-1]

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

Cosponsors (31 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Adams, Alma S. [D-NC-12]	D · NC		Nov 7, 2017
Rep. Blumenauer, Earl [D-OR-3]	D · OR		Nov 7, 2017
Rep. DeFazio, Peter A. [D-OR-4]	D · OR		Nov 7, 2017
Rep. Evans, Dwight [D-PA-2]	D · PA		Nov 7, 2017
Rep. Loebsack, David [D-IA-2]	D · IA		Nov 7, 2017
Rep. McGovern, James P. [D-MA-2]	D · MA		Nov 7, 2017
Rep. Moore, Gwen [D-WI-4]	D · WI		Nov 7, 2017
Rep. Pocan, Mark [D-WI-2]	D · WI		Nov 7, 2017
Rep. Ryan, Tim [D-OH-13]	D · OH		Nov 7, 2017
Rep. Veasey, Marc A. [D-TX-33]	D · TX		Nov 7, 2017
Rep. Carbajal, Salud O. [D-CA-24]	D · CA		Nov 9, 2017
Rep. Huffman, Jared [D-CA-2]	D · CA		Nov 9, 2017
Rep. Nolan, Richard M. [D-MN-8]	D · MN		Nov 14, 2017
Rep. Quigley, Mike [D-IL-5]	D · IL		Nov 14, 2017
Rep. Rush, Bobby L. [D-IL-1]	D · IL		Nov 14, 2017
Rep. Slaughter, Louise McIntosh [D-NY-25]	D · NY		Nov 14, 2017
Rep. Tonko, Paul [D-NY-20]	D · NY		Nov 16, 2017
Rep. Kuster, Ann M. [D-NH-2]	D · NH		Dec 6, 2017
Rep. McCollum, Betty [D-MN-4]	D · MN		Dec 13, 2017
Rep. Swalwell, Eric [D-CA-15]	D · CA		Dec 13, 2017
Rep. Lowenthal, Alan S. [D-CA-47]	D · CA		Dec 14, 2017
Rep. Lieu, Ted [D-CA-33]	D · CA		Jan 11, 2018
Rep. Lofgren, Zoe [D-CA-19]	D · CA		Jan 11, 2018
Rep. Serrano, Jose E. [D-NY-15]	D · NY		Jan 11, 2018
Rep. Chu, Judy [D-CA-27]	D · CA		Jan 17, 2018
Rep. Lee, Barbara [D-CA-13]	D · CA		Jan 30, 2018
Rep. Napolitano, Grace F. [D-CA-32]	D · CA		Mar 5, 2018
Rep. Larsen, Rick [D-WA-2]	D · WA		Apr 10, 2018
Rep. Raskin, Jamie [D-MD-8]	D · MD		Apr 24, 2018
Rep. Smith, Adam [D-WA-9]	D · WA		Jul 16, 2018
Rep. Polis, Jared [D-CO-2]	D · CO		Sep 10, 2018

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Agriculture Committee	House	Referred To	Jul 27, 2017
Committee on House Administration	House	Referred To	Jul 27, 2017
Education and Workforce Committee	House	Referred To	Jul 27, 2017
Energy and Commerce Committee	House	Referred to	Jul 28, 2017
Oversight and Government Reform Committee	House	Referred To	Jul 27, 2017
Ways and Means Committee	House	Referred To	Jul 27, 2017

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Agriculture and Food

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
115 S 1680	Related bill	Jul 31, 2017: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.
115 HR 952	Related bill	Feb 7, 2017: Referred to the House Committee on Education and the Workforce.

Summary (as of Jul 27, 2017)

Food Recovery Act of 2017

This bill provides funding and establishes requirements to reduce food waste and standardize date labeling on food.

The bill authorizes grants or loans for activities related to:

- raising awareness about wasted food and food recovery efforts to reduce the quantity of wasted food,
- reducing food waste at schools and farms, and
- installing facilities that include composting or anaerobic digesters that use food or crop waste to produce energy.

The bill provides funds for: (1) state storage and distribution costs under the Emergency Food Assistance Program, and (2) national media campaigns to decrease food waste.

The bill also:

- establishes a Food Recovery Liaison within the Department of Agriculture (USDA),
- specifies that composting is eligible for support under USDA's conservation programs,
- expands the tax deduction for charitable contributions to include contributions of food inventory for nonprofit retail sales,
- expands the liability protections for the donation of food, and
- requires companies that receive federal food service contracts to donate surplus food to nonprofit organizations that assist food-insecure people.

The bill requires date labels on food packaging to include the phrases "best if used by" to indicate food quality and "use by" to warn of food that may be unsafe to eat after a specified date.

Labelers may include a quality date on packaging, but must include a safety date on ready-to-eat products. No one may prohibit the sale, donation, or use of a product based on passage of the quality date of the product.

Actions Timeline

- **Jul 28, 2017:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.
- **Jul 27, 2017:** Introduced in House
- **Jul 27, 2017:** Referred to the Committee on Agriculture, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, Education and the Workforce, Energy and Commerce, Oversight and Government Reform, and House Administration, 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.