

S 392

400 Years of African-American History Commission Act

Congress: 115 (2017–2019, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Civil Rights and Liberties, Minority Issues

Introduced: Feb 15, 2017

Current Status: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 81.

Latest Action: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 81. (May 16, 2017)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/senate-bill/392>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Kaine, Tim [D-VA]

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

Cosponsors (3 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Blunt, Roy [R-MO]	R · MO		Feb 15, 2017
Sen. Booker, Cory A. [D-NJ]	D · NJ		Feb 15, 2017
Sen. Warner, Mark R. [D-VA]	D · VA		Feb 15, 2017

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Energy and Natural Resources Committee	Senate	Reported By	May 16, 2017

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Civil Rights and Liberties, Minority Issues

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
115 HR 1242	Related bill	Jan 8, 2018: Became Public Law No: 115-102.
115 S 1460	Related bill	Sep 19, 2017: Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. Hearings held. Hearings printed: S.Hrg. 115-485.

(This measure has not been amended since it was introduced. The summary has been expanded because action occurred on the measure.)

400 Years of African-American History Commission Act

(Sec. 3) This bill establishes the 400 Years of African-American History Commission to develop and carry out activities throughout the United States to commemorate the 400th anniversary of the arrival of Africans in the English colonies at Point Comfort, Virginia, in 1619.

The commission must:

- plan programs to acknowledge the impact that slavery and laws that enforced racial discrimination had on the United States;
- encourage civic, patriotic, historical, educational, artistic, religious, and economic organizations to organize and participate in anniversary activities;
- assist states, localities, and nonprofit organizations to further the commemoration; and
- coordinate for the public scholarly research on the arrival of Africans in the United States and their contributions to this country.

(Sec. 5) The commission may provide: (1) grants to communities and nonprofit organizations for the development of programs; (2) grants to research and scholarly organizations to research, publish, or distribute information relating to the arrival of Africans in the United States; and (3) technical assistance to states, localities, and nonprofit organizations to further the commemoration.

(Sec. 7) The commission must prepare a strategic plan and submit a final report to Congress that contains a summary of its activities, an accounting of its received and expended funds, and its recommendations.

(Sec. 9) The commission shall terminate on July 1, 2020.

Actions Timeline

- **May 16, 2017:** Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. Reported by Senator Murkowski without amendment. With written report No. 115-63.
- **May 16, 2017:** Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 81.
- **Mar 30, 2017:** Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. Ordered to be reported without amendment favorably.
- **Feb 15, 2017:** Introduced in Senate
- **Feb 15, 2017:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. (Sponsor introductory remarks on measure: CR S1219)