

HR 4979

To extend the Generalized System of Preferences and to make technical changes to the competitive need limitations provision of the program.

Congress: 115 (2017–2019, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Foreign Trade and International Finance

Introduced: Feb 8, 2018

Current Status: Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.

Latest Action: Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance. (Feb 14, 2018)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/4979>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Reichert, David G. [R-WA-8]

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

Cosponsors (11 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Brady, Kevin [R-TX-8]	R · TX		Feb 8, 2018
Rep. Curbelo, Carlos [R-FL-26]	R · FL		Feb 8, 2018
Rep. Kelly, Mike [R-PA-3]	R · PA		Feb 8, 2018
Rep. Meehan, Patrick [R-PA-7]	R · PA		Feb 8, 2018
Rep. Neal, Richard E. [D-MA-1]	D · MA		Feb 8, 2018
Rep. Pascrell, Bill, Jr. [D-NJ-9]	D · NJ		Feb 8, 2018
Rep. Smith, Adrian [R-NE-3]	R · NE		Feb 8, 2018
Rep. Walorski, Jackie [R-IN-2]	R · IN		Feb 8, 2018
Rep. Ferguson, A. Drew, IV [R-GA-3]	R · GA		Feb 13, 2018
Rep. Marchant, Kenny [R-TX-24]	R · TX		Feb 13, 2018
Rep. Paulsen, Erik [R-MN-3]	R · MN		Feb 13, 2018

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Finance Committee	Senate	Referred To	Feb 14, 2018
Ways and Means Committee	House	Referred to	Feb 13, 2018

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Foreign Trade and International Finance

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
115 HR 1625	Related bill	Mar 23, 2018: Became Public Law No: 115-141.
115 S 2036	Related bill	Oct 31, 2017: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.
115 HR 4068	Related bill	Oct 12, 2017: Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means.

Summary (as of Feb 13, 2018)

(Sec. 1) This bill extends the Generalized System of Preferences (a U.S. trade preference program that provides duty-free access to imports on products from certain developing countries) through 2020.

The U.S. Trade Representative, within one year of this bill's enactment and annually thereafter through December 31, 2020, must report to the House Ways and Means Committee and the Senate Finance Committee on efforts to ensure that countries designated as beneficiary developing countries under the Trade Act of 1974 are meeting the eligibility criteria set forth in that Act.

(Sec. 2) The Trade Act of 1974 is amended to modify the deadline for the review process with respect to the competitive needs limitation. (The competitive need limitation terminates duty-free treatment with respect to articles from a beneficiary developing country if certain import limits are exceeded.)

(Sec. 3) The Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1985 is amended to extend through August 1, 2027, the authority for customs user fees for the processing of merchandise formally entered or released into the United States.

Actions Timeline

- **Feb 14, 2018:** Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.
- **Feb 13, 2018:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Trade.
- **Feb 13, 2018:** Mr. Reichert moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.
- **Feb 13, 2018:** Considered under suspension of the rules. (consideration: CR H1100-1103)
- **Feb 13, 2018:** DEBATE - The House proceeded with forty minutes of debate on H.R. 4979.
- **Feb 13, 2018:** At the conclusion of debate, the Yeas and Nays were demanded and ordered. Pursuant to the provisions of clause 8, rule XX, the Chair announced that further proceedings on the motion would be postponed.
- **Feb 13, 2018:** Considered as unfinished business. (consideration: CR H1104-1105)
- **Feb 13, 2018:** Passed/agreed to in House: On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended Agreed to by the Yeas and Nays: (2/3 required): 400 - 2 (Roll no. 71).(text: CR H1100)
- **Feb 13, 2018:** On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended Agreed to by the Yeas and Nays: (2/3 required): 400 - 2 (Roll no. 71). (text: CR H1100)
- **Feb 13, 2018:** Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
- **Feb 8, 2018:** Introduced in House
- **Feb 8, 2018:** Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means.