

S 503

Animal Welfare Accountability and Transparency Act

Congress: 115 (2017–2019, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Animals

Introduced: Mar 2, 2017

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance. (Sponsor introductory remarks on measure: CR S1

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance. (Sponsor introductory remarks on measure: CR S1580; text of measure as introduced: CR S1580-1581) (Mar 2, 2017)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/senate-bill/503>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Wyden, Ron [D-OR]

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

Cosponsors (9 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Blumenthal, Richard [D-CT]	D · CT		Mar 2, 2017
Sen. Booker, Cory A. [D-NJ]	D · NJ		Mar 2, 2017
Sen. Cantwell, Maria [D-WA]	D · WA		Mar 2, 2017
Sen. Menendez, Robert [D-NJ]	D · NJ		Mar 2, 2017
Sen. Peters, Gary C. [D-MI]	D · MI		Mar 2, 2017
Sen. Gillibrand, Kirsten E. [D-NY]	D · NY		Oct 5, 2017
Sen. Hassan, Margaret Wood [D-NH]	D · NH		Oct 30, 2017
Sen. Baldwin, Tammy [D-WI]	D · WI		Feb 13, 2018
Sen. Shaheen, Jeanne [D-NH]	D · NH		Feb 28, 2018

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Finance Committee	Senate	Referred To	Mar 2, 2017

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Animals

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
115 HR 1368	Identical bill	Mar 23, 2017: Referred to the Subcommittee on Livestock and Foreign Agriculture.

Animal Welfare Accountability and Transparency Act

This bill requires the Department of Agriculture (USDA) to maintain and publicly disclose records relating to the administration of the Animal Welfare Act and the Horse Protection Act, including specified details regarding inspections, enforcement actions, regulations, registrations, and licenses under the two laws. Within 90 days of the enactment of this bill, USDA must make the records available to the public in an online searchable database in a machine-readable format on its website.

The bill also amends the Internal Revenue Code to require a taxpayer who has been convicted or assessed civil penalties for violating certain provisions of the Animal Welfare Act or the Horse Protection Act to use the alternative depreciation system that increases the number of years over which property is depreciated. The taxpayer must use the system for any property placed in service during the five-year period beginning with the year in which the period for seeking judicial review of a civil penalty has lapsed or in which there has been a final judgment entered with respect to the violation, whichever is earlier.

Actions Timeline

- **Mar 2, 2017:** Introduced in Senate
- **Mar 2, 2017:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance. (Sponsor introductory remarks on measure: CR S1580; text of measure as introduced: CR S1580-1581)