

HR 5208

Seeds for the Future Act

**Congress:** 115 (2017–2019, Ended)

**Chamber:** House

**Policy Area:** Agriculture and Food

**Introduced:** Mar 7, 2018

**Current Status:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Biotechnology, Horticulture, and Research.

**Latest Action:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Biotechnology, Horticulture, and Research. (Mar 28, 2018)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/5208>

Sponsor

**Name:** Rep. Pocan, Mark [D-WI-2]

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

Cosponsors (4 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Soto, Darren [D-FL-9]	D · FL		Mar 7, 2018
Rep. Kilmer, Derek [D-WA-6]	D · WA		Apr 10, 2018
Rep. Maloney, Sean Patrick [D-NY-18]	D · NY		Apr 13, 2018
Rep. Price, David E. [D-NC-4]	D · NC		May 9, 2018

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Agriculture Committee	House	Referred to	Mar 28, 2018

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Agriculture and Food

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
<a href="#">115 S 2964</a>	Related bill	<b>May 24, 2018:</b> Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

## Seeds for the Future Act

This bill amends the Competitive, Special, and Facilities Research Grant Act to require the Department of Agriculture (USDA) to ensure that at least \$50 million of USDA grant funding is used each year for competitive research grants that support the development of public cultivars.

A "cultivar" is a variety of plant that has been intentionally selected for use in cultivation because of its improved characteristics. A "public cultivar" is the commercially available uniform end product of a publicly funded breeding program that has been sufficiently tested to demonstrate improved characteristics and stable performance.

The bill also amends the Department of Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994 to establish a public cultivar research activities coordinator within USDA to coordinate research activities relating to the breeding of public cultivars.

## Actions Timeline

---

- **Mar 28, 2018:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Biotechnology, Horticulture, and Research.
- **Mar 7, 2018:** Introduced in House
- **Mar 7, 2018:** Referred to the House Committee on Agriculture.