

HR 745

Federal Records Modernization Act of 2017

Congress: 115 (2017–2019, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Government Operations and Politics

Introduced: Jan 30, 2017

Current Status: Referred to the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

Latest Action: Referred to the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. (Jan 30, 2017)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/745>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Meadows, Mark [R-NC-11]

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

Cosponsors

No cosponsors are listed for this bill.

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Oversight and Government Reform Committee	House	Referred To	Jan 30, 2017

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Government Operations and Politics

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Federal Records Modernization Act of 2017

This bill creates a process for the suspension and removal of federal employees if an agency inspector general determines that they have: (1) willfully and unlawfully concealed, removed, mutilated, obliterated, falsified, or destroyed any record, proceeding, or other thing in their custody; or (2) violated prohibitions against creating or sending records using nonofficial electronic messaging accounts.

The President, Vice President, or their staff or advisers may not create or send a presidential or vice presidential record using nonofficial electronic messaging accounts unless they: (1) include their official electronic messaging account as a recipient in the original creation or transmission of the electronic message (currently, the official account must only be copied on the message); (2) identify all recipients in such message; and (3) print a copy of the message, including a complete list of recipients, to submit for archival storage by the Executive Office of the President (currently, the message must only be forwarded electronically to their official electronic messaging account). Other executive agency officials or employees may not create or send records using nonofficial electronic messaging accounts unless they follow similar requirements to include their official account as a recipient, identify all recipients, and print a copy to submit for their agencies' archival storage.

The bill modifies the categories of record removal or destruction that obligate federal agency heads to notify the Archivist of the United States and initiate actions to recover removed records through the Department of Justice. Agencies must also: (1) notify the Archivist of concealments or falsifications of agency items, and (2) publish a general description of records at risk or that have been lost. Agencies must designate senior records management officials to ensure compliance with records management requirements and to immediately notify the agency whenever an actual or threatened destruction, removal, concealment, or falsification of records comes to their attention.

Each agency's records management program must provide for the electronic capture and automatic retention of messaging accounts containing electronic records that should be: (1) preserved as permanent federal records, and (2) accessible for retrieval through electronic searches.

The bill requires the Federal Register to be: (1) published (e.g., by electronic means), rather than printed; and (2) available for sale or distribution to the public in published form. It revises requirements for the filing of documents with the Office of the Federal Register and the publication of the Code of Federal Regulations.

Actions Timeline

- **Jan 30, 2017:** Introduced in House
- **Jan 30, 2017:** Referred to the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.