

S 760

OPEN Government Data Act

Congress: 115 (2017–2019, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Government Operations and Politics

Introduced: Mar 29, 2017

Current Status: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 180.

Latest Action: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 180. (Jul 24, 2017)

Official Text: https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/senate-bill/760

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Schatz, Brian [D-HI]

Party: Democratic • State: HI • Chamber: Senate

Cosponsors (6 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Sasse, Ben [R-NE]	R · NE		Mar 29, 2017
Sen. Peters, Gary C. [D-MI]	D · MI		May 1, 2017
Sen. Gardner, Cory [R-CO]	R · CO		May 15, 2017
Sen. Coons, Christopher A. [D-DE]	D · DE		Jun 8, 2017
Sen. Bennet, Michael F. [D-CO]	D · CO		May 22, 2018
Sen. Portman, Rob [R-OH]	R · OH		Dec 19, 2018

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee	Senate	Reported By	Jul 24, 2017

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Government Operations and Politics

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
115 HR 1770	Identical bill	Mar 29, 2017: Referred to the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

Open, Public, Electronic, and Necessary Government Data Act or the OPEN Government Data Act

(Sec. 4) This bill requires open government data assets made available by federal agencies (excluding the Government Accountability Office [GAO] and certain other government entities) to be published as machine-readable data. When not otherwise prohibited by law, and to the extent practicable, public data assets and nonpublic data assets maintained by the federal government must be available: (1) in an open format that does not impede use or reuse and that has standards maintained by a standards organization; and (2) under open licenses with a legal guarantee that the data be available at no cost to the public with no restrictions on copying, publishing, distributing, transmitting, citing, or adapting.

If published government data assets are not available under an open license, the data must be considered part of the worldwide public domain. Agencies may engage with outside organizations and citizens to leverage public data assets for innovation in public and private sectors.

Agencies must: (1) make their enterprise data inventories available to the public on Data.gov, and (2) designate a point of contact to assist the public and respond to complaints about adherence to open data requirements. For privacy, security, confidentiality, or regulatory reasons, agencies may maintain a nonpublic portion of their inventories.

The General Services Administration must maintain a single public interface online as a point of entry dedicated to sharing open government data with the public.

(Sec. 5) The Chief Operating Officer of each agency shall submit to Congress and to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) a report assessing the coverage, quality, methods, effectiveness, and independence of the evaluation, research, and analysis efforts of the agency.

The GAO shall submit to Congress a report that summarizes agency findings and highlights trends from the reports submitted and, if appropriate, recommends actions to further improve agency capacity to use evaluation techniques and data to support evaluation efforts.

(Sec. 6) The OMB must develop and maintain an online repository of tools, best practices, and schema standards to facilitate the adoption of open data practices.

Actions Timeline

- **Jul 24, 2017:** Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs. Reported by Senator Johnson with amendments. With written report No. 115-134.
- **Jul 24, 2017:** Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 180.
- **May 17, 2017:** Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs. Ordered to be reported without amendment favorably.
- **Mar 29, 2017:** Introduced in Senate
- **Mar 29, 2017:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.