

## HR 781

### Free Speech Fairness Act

**Congress:** 115 (2017–2019, Ended)

**Chamber:** House

**Policy Area:** Taxation

**Introduced:** Feb 1, 2017

**Current Status:** Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means.

**Latest Action:** Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means. (Feb 1, 2017)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/781>

## Sponsor

---

**Name:** Rep. Scalise, Steve [R-LA-1]

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

**Cosponsors** (63 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Hice, Jody B. [R-GA-10]	R · GA		Feb 1, 2017
Rep. Banks, Jim [R-IN-3]	R · IN		Feb 6, 2017
Rep. Byrne, Bradley [R-AL-1]	R · AL		Feb 6, 2017
Rep. Duncan, Jeff [R-SC-3]	R · SC		Feb 6, 2017
Rep. Gaetz, Matt [R-FL-1]	R · FL		Feb 6, 2017
Rep. Johnson, Mike [R-LA-4]	R · LA		Feb 6, 2017
Rep. Massie, Thomas [R-KY-4]	R · KY		Feb 6, 2017
Rep. Murphy, Tim [R-PA-18]	R · PA		Feb 6, 2017
Rep. Palmer, Gary J. [R-AL-6]	R · AL		Feb 6, 2017
Rep. Pittenger, Robert [R-NC-9]	R · NC		Feb 6, 2017
Rep. Renacci, James B. [R-OH-16]	R · OH		Feb 6, 2017
Rep. Rogers, Mike D. [R-AL-3]	R · AL		Feb 6, 2017
Rep. Farenthold, Blake [R-TX-27]	R · TX		Feb 7, 2017
Rep. Smith, Jason [R-MO-8]	R · MO		Feb 7, 2017
Rep. Abraham, Ralph Lee [R-LA-5]	R · LA		Feb 14, 2017
Rep. Aderholt, Robert B. [R-AL-4]	R · AL		Feb 14, 2017
Rep. Allen, Rick W. [R-GA-12]	R · GA		Feb 14, 2017
Rep. Budd, Ted [R-NC-13]	R · NC		Feb 14, 2017
Rep. Cole, Tom [R-OK-4]	R · OK		Feb 14, 2017
Rep. Collins, Doug [R-GA-9]	R · GA		Feb 14, 2017
Rep. Cramer, Kevin [R-ND-At Large]	R · ND		Feb 14, 2017
Rep. Flores, Bill [R-TX-17]	R · TX		Feb 14, 2017
Rep. Gohmert, Louie [R-TX-1]	R · TX		Feb 14, 2017
Rep. Griffith, H. Morgan [R-VA-9]	R · VA		Feb 14, 2017
Rep. Grothman, Glenn [R-WI-6]	R · WI		Feb 14, 2017
Rep. Harris, Andy [R-MD-1]	R · MD		Feb 14, 2017
Rep. Hensarling, Jeb [R-TX-5]	R · TX		Feb 14, 2017
Rep. Jordan, Jim [R-OH-4]	R · OH		Feb 14, 2017
Rep. King, Steve [R-IA-4]	R · IA		Feb 14, 2017
Rep. Labrador, Raul R. [R-ID-1]	R · ID		Feb 14, 2017
Rep. Loudermilk, Barry [R-GA-11]	R · GA		Feb 14, 2017
Rep. Luetkemeyer, Blaine [R-MO-3]	R · MO		Feb 14, 2017
Rep. Meadows, Mark [R-NC-11]	R · NC		Feb 14, 2017
Rep. Pearce, Stevan [R-NM-2]	R · NM		Feb 14, 2017
Rep. Rothfus, Keith J. [R-PA-12]	R · PA		Feb 14, 2017
Rep. Rouzer, David [R-NC-7]	R · NC		Feb 14, 2017
Rep. Scott, Austin [R-GA-8]	R · GA		Feb 14, 2017
Rep. Walberg, Tim [R-MI-7]	R · MI		Feb 14, 2017
Rep. Weber, Randy K., Sr. [R-TX-14]	R · TX		Feb 14, 2017
Rep. Westerman, Bruce [R-AR-4]	R · AR		Feb 14, 2017
Rep. Hartzler, Vicky [R-MO-4]	R · MO		Feb 16, 2017

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Barr, Andy [R-KY-6]	R · KY		Feb 24, 2017
Rep. DesJarlais, Scott [R-TN-4]	R · TN		Feb 24, 2017
Rep. Hudson, Richard [R-NC-8]	R · NC		Feb 24, 2017
Rep. LaMalfa, Doug [R-CA-1]	R · CA		Feb 24, 2017
Rep. Wilson, Joe [R-SC-2]	R · SC		Feb 24, 2017
Rep. Yoho, Ted S. [R-FL-3]	R · FL		Feb 24, 2017
Rep. Messer, Luke [R-IN-6]	R · IN		Feb 27, 2017
Rep. Shimkus, John [R-IL-15]	R · IL		Feb 27, 2017
Rep. Brat, Dave [R-VA-7]	R · VA		Mar 2, 2017
Rep. Dunn, Neal P. [R-FL-2]	R · FL		Mar 7, 2017
Rep. Arrington, Jodey C. [R-TX-19]	R · TX		Mar 23, 2017
Rep. Babin, Brian [R-TX-36]	R · TX		Mar 23, 2017
Rep. Graves, Tom [R-GA-14]	R · GA		Apr 25, 2017
Rep. Hultgren, Randy [R-IL-14]	R · IL		Apr 25, 2017
Rep. Marshall, Roger [R-KS-1]	R · KS		Apr 25, 2017
Rep. Webster, Daniel [R-FL-11]	R · FL		Jun 6, 2017
Rep. Goodlatte, Bob [R-VA-6]	R · VA		Oct 23, 2017
Rep. Jenkins, Evan H. [R-WV-3]	R · WV		Oct 23, 2017
Rep. Rooney, Francis [R-FL-19]	R · FL		Oct 23, 2017
Rep. Wittman, Robert J. [R-VA-1]	R · VA		Oct 23, 2017
Rep. Stivers, Steve [R-OH-15]	R · OH		May 16, 2018
Rep. Latta, Robert E. [R-OH-5]	R · OH		May 17, 2018

## Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Ways and Means Committee	House	Referred To	Feb 1, 2017

## Subjects & Policy Tags

### Policy Area:

Taxation

## Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
115 HR 88	Related bill	Dec 21, 2018: Message on House action received in Senate and at desk: House amendment to Senate amendment.
115 S 264	Identical bill	Feb 1, 2017: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.

## Free Speech Fairness Act

This bill amends the Internal Revenue Code to permit a tax-exempt organization to make certain statements related to a political campaign without losing its tax-exempt status. An organization may not lose its tax-exempt status under section 501(c)(3) or be deemed to have participated in, or intervened in any political campaign on behalf of (or in opposition to) any candidate for public office, solely because of the content of any statement that: (1) is made in the ordinary course of the organization's regular and customary activities in carrying out its exempt purpose, and (2) results in the organization incurring not more than de minimis incremental expenses.

## Actions Timeline

---

- **Feb 1, 2017:** Introduced in House
- **Feb 1, 2017:** Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means.