

HR 1611

Robert Levinson Hostage Recovery and Hostage-Taking Accountability Act

Congress: 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: International Affairs

Introduced: Mar 7, 2019

Current Status: Ordered to be Reported by Voice Vote.

Latest Action: Ordered to be Reported by Voice Vote. (Mar 4, 2020)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/1611>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Deutch, Theodore E. [D-FL-22]

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

Cosponsors (19 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Lieu, Ted [D-CA-33]	D · CA		Mar 7, 2019
Rep. Waltz, Michael [R-FL-6]	R · FL		Mar 7, 2019
Rep. Wilson, Joe [R-SC-2]	R · SC		Mar 7, 2019
Rep. Meadows, Mark [R-NC-11]	R · NC		Apr 2, 2019
Rep. Malinowski, Tom [D-NJ-7]	D · NJ		Apr 15, 2019
Rep. Espaillat, Adriano [D-NY-13]	D · NY		Sep 6, 2019
Rep. Dean, Madeleine [D-PA-4]	D · PA		Sep 9, 2019
Rep. Bacon, Don [R-NE-2]	R · NE		Oct 1, 2019
Rep. Perry, Scott [R-PA-10]	R · PA		Oct 8, 2019
Rep. Hurd, Will [R-TX-23]	R · TX		Oct 16, 2019
Rep. Kuster, Ann M. [D-NH-2]	D · NH		Oct 16, 2019
Rep. Reschenthaler, Guy [R-PA-14]	R · PA		Oct 17, 2019
Rep. Spanberger, Abigail Davis [D-VA-7]	D · VA		Nov 1, 2019
Rep. Van Drew, Jefferson [D-NJ-2]	D · NJ		Dec 10, 2019
Rep. Brooks, Susan W. [R-IN-5]	R · IN		Jan 30, 2020
Rep. Fitzpatrick, Brian K. [R-PA-1]	R · PA		Mar 4, 2020
Rep. Sherman, Brad [D-CA-30]	D · CA		Mar 4, 2020
Rep. Zeldin, Lee M. [R-NY-1]	R · NY		Mar 4, 2020
Rep. Keating, William R. [D-MA-9]	D · MA		May 1, 2020

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Foreign Affairs Committee	House	Markup By	Mar 4, 2020
Judiciary Committee	House	Referred to	Apr 8, 2019
Judiciary Committee	House	Referred to	Apr 8, 2019

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

International Affairs

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
116 S 712	Identical bill	Jun 18, 2020: Held at the desk.

Summary (as of Mar 7, 2019)

Robert Levinson Hostage Recovery and Hostage-Taking Accountability Act

This bill establishes various entities and procedures to address the wrongful detainment of U.S. nationals abroad.

The President shall appoint a Special Presidential Envoy for Hostage Affairs. The envoy's duties shall include leading diplomatic engagement on U.S. hostage policy and coordinating diplomatic engagements in support of hostage recovery efforts.

The President shall establish an interagency Hostage Recovery Fusion Cell, which shall assess and track all hostage cases of U.S. nationals and coordinate agency efforts to safely recover hostages. The President shall also establish the Hostage Recovery Group, which shall make recommendations regarding hostage recovery options and coordinate the development and implementation of U.S. hostage recovery policies.

The President is authorized to impose visa- and property-blocking sanctions against any foreign person responsible for or complicit in the unlawful or wrongful detention of a U.S. national abroad.

The Department of State shall review cases where U.S. nationals are detained abroad and refer instances of wrongful or unlawful detainment to the Special Presidential Envoy for Hostage Affairs.

Actions Timeline

- **Mar 4, 2020:** Committee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held.
- **Mar 4, 2020:** Ordered to be Reported by Voice Vote.
- **Apr 8, 2019:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Immigration and Citizenship.
- **Apr 8, 2019:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security.
- **Mar 7, 2019:** Introduced in House
- **Mar 7, 2019:** Referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.