HR 1704

Championing American Business Through Diplomacy Act of 2019

Congress: 116 (2019–2021, Ended)
Chamber: House
Policy Area: International Affairs
Introduced: Mar 13, 2019
Current Status: Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.
Latest Action: Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations. (May 8, 2019)
Official Text: https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/1704

Sponsor

Name: Rep. McCaul, Michael T. [R-TX-10]
Party: Republican • **State:** TX • **Chamber:** House

Cosponsors (7 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Engel, Eliot L. [D-NY-16]	D · NY		Mar 13, 2019
Rep. Yoho, Ted S. [R-FL-3]	R · FL		Mar 13, 2019
Rep. Pence, Greg [R-IN-6]	R · IN		Apr 25, 2019
Rep. Phillips, Dean [D-MN-3]	D · MN		Apr 25, 2019
Rep. Allred, Colin Z. [D-TX-32]	D · TX		May 2, 2019
Rep. Meadows, Mark [R-NC-11]	R · NC		May 7, 2019
Rep. Schweikert, David [R-AZ-6]	R · AZ		May 7, 2019

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Foreign Affairs Committee	House	Markup By	Apr 9, 2019
Foreign Relations Committee	Senate	Referred To	May 8, 2019

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

International Affairs

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
116 HR 1865	Related bill	**Dec 20, 2019:** Became Public Law No: 116-94.

Summary (as of May 7, 2019)

Championing American Business Through Diplomacy Act of 2019

This bill establishes within the Department of State an Assistant Secretary of State for Economic and Business Matters, and establishes that a principal duty of a diplomatic mission to a foreign country is the promotion of U.S. economic and commercial interests in that country.

The Assistant Secretary shall be responsible for matters relating to international economics and business matters in foreign policy.

The State Department shall train various Foreign Service officers, as part of their standard training, on matters including economic and commercial diplomacy, with a particular focus on market access, commercial advocacy, and increasing awareness of U.S. government assistance available to businesses.

The President shall initiate negotiations with countries to establish international standards for government-supported infrastructure investment overseas. The negotiations shall cover issues including the sovereignty of countries receiving investment, anti-corruption, and environmental standards.

The bill calls for various reports to Congress, including a State Department report about each mission's activities to promote U.S. economic and business interests, and a State Department and Department of Commerce report on commercial relations with foreign countries, including information on each country or region's political environment and investment climate.

Actions Timeline

- **May 8, 2019:** Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.
- **May 7, 2019:** Mr. Sires moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill.
- **May 7, 2019:** Considered under suspension of the rules. (consideration: CR H3459-3461)
- **May 7, 2019:** DEBATE - The House proceeded with forty minutes of debate on H.R. 1704.
- **May 7, 2019:** At the conclusion of debate, the Yeas and Nays were demanded and ordered. Pursuant to the provisions of clause 8, rule XX, the Chair announced that further proceedings on the motion would be postponed.
- **May 7, 2019:** Considered as unfinished business. (consideration: CR H3461-3462)
- **May 7, 2019:** Passed/agreed to in House: On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill Agreed to by the Yeas and Nays: (2/3 required): 400 - 16 (Roll no. 186).(text: CR H3459-3460)
- **May 7, 2019:** On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill Agreed to by the Yeas and Nays: (2/3 required): 400 - 16 (Roll no. 186). (text: CR H3459-3460)
- **May 7, 2019:** Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
- **Apr 9, 2019:** Ordered to be Reported (Amended) by Voice Vote.
- **Apr 9, 2019:** Committee Agreed to Seek Consideration Under Suspension of the Rules.
- **Apr 9, 2019:** Committee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held.
- **Mar 13, 2019:** Introduced in House
- **Mar 13, 2019:** Referred to the House Committee on Foreign Affairs.

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