

HR 2044

Smart Building Acceleration Act

Congress: 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Energy

Introduced: Apr 3, 2019

Current Status: Ordered to be Reported by Voice Vote.

Latest Action: Ordered to be Reported by Voice Vote. (Jul 17, 2019)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/2044>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Welch, Peter [D-VT-At Large]

Party: Democratic • **State:** VT • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (3 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Kinzinger, Adam [R-IL-16]	R · IL		Apr 3, 2019
Rep. Van Drew, Jefferson [D-NJ-2]	D · NJ		Jun 4, 2019
Rep. Fitzpatrick, Brian K. [R-PA-1]	R · PA		Jun 12, 2019

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Energy and Commerce Committee	House	Reported by	May 16, 2019
Science, Space, and Technology Committee	House	Referred to	Apr 3, 2019
Transportation and Infrastructure Committee	House	Referred to	Apr 4, 2019

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Energy

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
116 S 2335	Related bill	Oct 24, 2019: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 272.
116 HR 2741	Related bill	Jun 4, 2019: Referred to the Subcommittee for Indigenous Peoples of the United States.

Smart Building Acceleration Act

This bill assists the building sector in adopting smart building technology that increases energy efficiency. Smart buildings are buildings with energy systems that (1) are flexible and automated; (2) have extensive operational monitoring and communication connectivity, allowing remote monitoring and analysis of building functions; (3) take a systems-based approach in integrating the overall building operations for control of energy generation, consumption, and storage; (4) communicate with utilities and other third-party commercial entities, if appropriate; (5) protect the health and safety of occupants and workers; and (6) are cybersecure.

Specifically, the bill requires the Department of Energy (DOE) to establish a Federal Smart Building Program. Under the program, DOE must implement smart building technology in certain federal buildings and demonstrate the costs and benefits of smart buildings.

DOE may expand awards made under the Federal Energy Management Program and the Better Building Challenge to recognize specific federal agency achievements in accelerating the adoption of smart building technologies.

In addition, DOE must conduct (1) a survey of privately owned smart buildings throughout the United States and evaluate their costs and benefits, and (2) research and development on barriers to the integration of advanced building technologies. As part of the Better Building Challenge, DOE must demonstrate policies and approaches that accelerate the transition to smart buildings.

Actions Timeline

- **Jul 17, 2019:** Committee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held.
- **Jul 17, 2019:** Ordered to be Reported by Voice Vote.
- **May 16, 2019:** Subcommittee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held.
- **May 16, 2019:** Forwarded by Subcommittee to Full Committee by Voice Vote .
- **Apr 10, 2019:** Subcommittee Hearings Held.
- **Apr 4, 2019:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings, and Emergency Management.
- **Apr 4, 2019:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Energy.
- **Apr 3, 2019:** Introduced in House
- **Apr 3, 2019:** Referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Transportation and Infrastructure, and Science, Space, and Technology, 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.
- **Apr 3, 2019:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Energy.