

S 2509

Office of Technology Assessment Improvement and Enhancement Act

Congress: 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Congress

Introduced: Sep 19, 2019

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration. (Sep 19, 2019)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/senate-bill/2509>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Tillis, Thomas [R-NC]

Party: Republican • **State:** NC • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (1 total)

| Cosponsor | Party / State | Role | Date Joined |
|------------------------------|---------------|------|--------------|
| Sen. Hirono, Mazie K. [D-HI] | D · HI | | Sep 19, 2019 |

Committee Activity

| Committee | Chamber | Activity | Date |
|------------------------------------|---------|-------------|--------------|
| Rules and Administration Committee | Senate | Referred To | Sep 19, 2019 |

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Congress

Related Bills

| Bill | Relationship | Last Action |
|-------------|----------------|--|
| 116 HR 4426 | Identical bill | Sep 19, 2019: Referred to the House Committee on House Administration. |

Office of Technology Assessment Improvement and Enhancement Act

This bill renames and revises the functions and duties of the Office of Technology Assessment which, composed of a Technology Assessment Board and a director, provides Congress with assessments of probable technology application impacts.

Specifically, the bill renames the office the Congressional Office of Technology, and it requires the office to undertake additional duties, such as providing to Members of Congress (1) certain information without the need for board review, (2) certain technical assistance on legislation related to science and technology without the need for board review, and (3) objective policy options on how Members may achieve goals with respect to science and technology policy.

The bill authorizes Members of Congress to submit to the board a request that the office undertake an assessment activity. Additionally, the bill requires the Congressional Research Service and the Government Accountability Office to coordinate technology assessment activities with the office to avoid duplication or overlapping of research activities.

The office may temporarily appoint specified technical and professional personnel to work for the office, and the office must also make the findings of completed analyses publicly available.

The bill also (1) revises the appointment of board members, (2) requires the board to hold an annual meeting at which Members of Congress may appear and present information regarding technology assessment activities, and (3) requires the board to report annually on the activities of the office.

Actions Timeline

- **Sep 19, 2019:** Introduced in Senate
- **Sep 19, 2019:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration.