

HR 5265

Holocaust Insurance Accountability Act of 2019

Congress: 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: International Affairs

Introduced: Nov 22, 2019

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights, and Civil Liberties.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights, and Civil Liberties. (Dec 19, 2019)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/5265>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Wasserman Schultz, Debbie [D-FL-23]

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

Cosponsors (20 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Zeldin, Lee M. [R-NY-1]	R · NY		Nov 22, 2019
Rep. Fitzpatrick, Brian K. [R-PA-1]	R · PA		Dec 3, 2019
Rep. Garamendi, John [D-CA-3]	D · CA		Dec 3, 2019
Rep. Wild, Susan [D-PA-7]	D · PA		Dec 23, 2019
Rep. Wilson, Frederica S. [D-FL-24]	D · FL		Jan 3, 2020
Rep. Kustoff, David [R-TN-8]	R · TN		Jan 7, 2020
Rep. Hastings, Alcee L. [D-FL-20]	D · FL		Feb 14, 2020
Rep. McGovern, James P. [D-MA-2]	D · MA		Feb 21, 2020
Rep. Davis, Susan A. [D-CA-53]	D · CA		Feb 25, 2020
Rep. Rose, Max [D-NY-11]	D · NY		Feb 26, 2020
Rep. Cook, Paul [R-CA-8]	R · CA		Mar 2, 2020
Rep. King, Peter T. [R-NY-2]	R · NY		Mar 2, 2020
Rep. Mucarsel-Powell, Debbie [D-FL-26]	D · FL		Mar 3, 2020
Rep. Bacon, Don [R-NE-2]	R · NE		Mar 4, 2020
Rep. Schrier, Kim [D-WA-8]	D · WA		Mar 10, 2020
Rep. Costa, Jim [D-CA-16]	D · CA		Mar 12, 2020
Rep. Sherman, Brad [D-CA-30]	D · CA		Mar 13, 2020
Rep. Raskin, Jamie [D-MD-8]	D · MD		May 22, 2020
Rep. Shalala, Donna E. [D-FL-27]	D · FL		Jul 1, 2020
Rep. Deutch, Theodore E. [D-FL-22]	D · FL		Sep 23, 2020

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Foreign Affairs Committee	House	Referred To	Nov 22, 2019
Judiciary Committee	House	Referred to	Dec 19, 2019

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

International Affairs

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
116 S 2621	Identical bill	Oct 17, 2019: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Summary (as of Nov 22, 2019)

Holocaust Insurance Accountability Act of 2019

This bill allows a beneficiary (or an heir of a beneficiary) of certain insurance policies in effect during the Holocaust to sue in U.S. district court to enforce rights under such policies.

An insurance policy covered under this bill must have been (1) in effect at any time between January 31, 1933, and December 31, 1945, and (2) issued to a policyholder domiciled in Nazi-controlled territory or Switzerland.

A court shall award to a prevailing beneficiary (1) the amount due under a policy, (2) prejudgment interest of 6% a year, (3) attorney's fees and costs, and (4) treble damages if the insurer acted in bad faith.

An action under this bill or state law related to a covered insurance policy shall be considered timely if filed within 10 years of this bill's enactment.

Judgments and agreements entered before this bill's enactment shall not preclude a claim brought under the bill, with certain exceptions. Neither executive agreements between the United States and a foreign government nor U.S. executive foreign policies shall (1) affect or preclude claims brought under this bill, or (2) supersede or preempt any state laws relating to insurance policies covered by this bill.

Actions Timeline

- **Dec 19, 2019:** Referred to the Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights, and Civil Liberties.
- **Nov 22, 2019:** Introduced in House
- **Nov 22, 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.