

HR 583

PIRATE Act

Congress: 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Science, Technology, Communications

Introduced: Jan 16, 2019

Current Status: Became Public Law No: 116-109.

Latest Action: Became Public Law No: 116-109. (Jan 24, 2020)

Law: 116-109 (Enacted Jan 24, 2020)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/583>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Tonko, Paul [D-NY-20]

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

Cosponsors (9 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Bilirakis, Gus M. [R-FL-12]	R · FL		Jan 16, 2019
Rep. Collins, Chris [R-NY-27]	R · NY		Feb 13, 2019
Rep. Maloney, Sean Patrick [D-NY-18]	D · NY		Feb 13, 2019
Rep. Rice, Kathleen M. [D-NY-4]	D · NY		Feb 13, 2019
Rep. Brooks, Susan W. [R-IN-5]	R · IN		Feb 25, 2019
Rep. Flores, Bill [R-TX-17]	R · TX		Feb 25, 2019
Rep. King, Peter T. [R-NY-2]	R · NY		Feb 25, 2019
Rep. Maloney, Carolyn B. [D-NY-12]	D · NY		Feb 25, 2019
Rep. Velazquez, Nydia M. [D-NY-7]	D · NY		Feb 25, 2019

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee	Senate	Discharged From	Jan 8, 2020
Energy and Commerce Committee	House	Referred to	Jan 25, 2019

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Science, Technology, Communications

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
116 S 1228	Identical bill	Jan 9, 2020: Held at the desk.

Preventing Illegal Radio Abuse Through Enforcement Act or the PIRATE Act

This bill addresses unlicensed radio broadcasting (called pirating), including by increasing to \$2 million the maximum fine for a pirate radio broadcasting violation and imposing a fine of up to \$100,000 per day for pirating violations subject to the \$2 million limit.

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) must (1) annually submit to Congress a report summarizing implementation of this bill and associated enforcement activities for the previous fiscal year; and (2) at least once a year, assign appropriate enforcement personnel to focus specific and sustained attention on the elimination of pirate radio broadcasting within the top five radio markets.

The FCC may not preempt any state or local law prohibiting pirate radio broadcasting.

The FCC shall (1) revise its rules to require that, absent good cause, in any case alleging a violation, it shall proceed directly to issue a Notice of Apparent Liability without first issuing a Notice of Unlicensed Operation; and (2) publish a database of all licensed radio stations operating in the AM and FM band that includes each licensed station and all entities that have received a Notice of Unlicensed Operation, Notice of Apparent Liability, or Forfeiture Order from the FCC.

Actions Timeline

- **Jan 24, 2020:** Signed by President.
- **Jan 24, 2020:** Became Public Law No: 116-109.
- **Jan 14, 2020:** Presented to President.
- **Jan 9, 2020:** Message on Senate action sent to the House.
- **Jan 8, 2020:** Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation discharged by Unanimous Consent.
- **Jan 8, 2020:** Passed/agreed to in Senate: Passed Senate without amendment by Unanimous Consent.(consideration: CR S84)
- **Jan 8, 2020:** Passed Senate without amendment by Unanimous Consent. (consideration: CR S84)
- **Feb 26, 2019:** Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.
- **Feb 25, 2019:** Mr. Tonko moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill.
- **Feb 25, 2019:** Considered under suspension of the rules. (consideration: CR H2050-2052)
- **Feb 25, 2019:** DEBATE - The House proceeded with forty minutes of debate on H.R. 583.
- **Feb 25, 2019:** Passed/agreed to in House: On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill Agreed to by voice vote.(text: CR H2050)
- **Feb 25, 2019:** On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill Agreed to by voice vote. (text: CR H2050)
- **Feb 25, 2019:** Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
- **Jan 25, 2019:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Communications and Technology.
- **Jan 16, 2019:** Introduced in House
- **Jan 16, 2019:** Referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.