

## HR 6689

Accountability for Acting Officials Act

**Congress:** 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

**Chamber:** House

**Policy Area:** Government Operations and Politics

**Introduced:** May 1, 2020

**Current Status:** Referred to the House Committee on Oversight and Reform.

**Latest Action:** Referred to the House Committee on Oversight and Reform. (May 1, 2020)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/6689>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Rep. Porter, Katie [D-CA-45]

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

### Cosponsors (8 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Connolly, Gerald E. [D-VA-11]	D · VA		May 1, 2020
Rep. Grijalva, Raúl M. [D-AZ-3]	D · AZ		May 1, 2020
Rep. Maloney, Carolyn B. [D-NY-12]	D · NY		May 1, 2020
Rep. Nadler, Jerrold [D-NY-10]	D · NY		May 1, 2020
Rep. Schiff, Adam B. [D-CA-28]	D · CA		May 1, 2020
Rep. Smith, Adam [D-WA-9]	D · WA		May 1, 2020
Rep. Takano, Mark [D-CA-41]	D · CA		May 1, 2020
Rep. Thompson, Bennie G. [D-MS-2]	D · MS		May 1, 2020

### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Oversight and Government Reform Committee	House	Referred To	May 1, 2020

### Subjects & Policy Tags

#### Policy Area:

Government Operations and Politics

### Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
116 S 4880	Related bill	<b>Oct 26, 2020:</b> Read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.
116 HR 8363	Related bill	<b>Sep 23, 2020:</b> Referred to the Committee on Oversight and Reform, and in addition to the Committees on the Judiciary, the Budget, Transportation and Infrastructure, Rules, Foreign Affairs, Ways and Means, Intelligence (Permanent Select), and House Administration, 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.

## Accountability for Acting Officials Act

This bill makes a series of changes with respect to the appointment, tenure, and qualifications of acting officials of executive agencies.

Among other things, the bill specifies that, for a position that requires an appointment by the President (by and with the advice and consent of the Senate),

- the first assistant to the office may temporarily fill the position only if the individual has been the first assistant for at least 30 days during the preceding year;
- an officer or employee of the agency who is directed by the President to temporarily fill the position may only do so if the officer or employee has served at the agency for at least the entire preceding year (rather than 90 days); and
- an individual who is a presidential appointee and is directed by the President to temporarily fill the position, including an acting Inspector General, must possess the requisite qualifications for the position as provided by law or regulation.

The bill also limits the tenure of acting heads of agencies to no more than 120 days (rather than 210 days).

## Actions Timeline

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- **May 1, 2020:** Introduced in House
- **May 1, 2020:** Referred to the House Committee on Oversight and Reform.