

HR 8970

Protect Our Civil Liberties Act

Congress: 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Armed Forces and National Security

Introduced: Dec 15, 2020

Current Status: Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committees on Intelligence (Perma

Latest Action: Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committees on Intelligence (Permanent Select), Financial Services, Foreign Affairs, Energy and Commerce, Education and Labor, Transportation and Infrastructure, and Armed Services, 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. (Dec 15, 2020)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/8970>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Gabbard, Tulsi [D-HI-2]

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

Cosponsors (1 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Massie, Thomas [R-KY-4]	R · KY		Dec 15, 2020

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Armed Services Committee	House	Referred To	Dec 15, 2020
Education and Workforce Committee	House	Referred To	Dec 15, 2020
Energy and Commerce Committee	House	Referred To	Dec 15, 2020
Financial Services Committee	House	Referred To	Dec 15, 2020
Foreign Affairs Committee	House	Referred To	Dec 15, 2020
Intelligence (Permanent Select) Committee	House	Referred To	Dec 15, 2020
Judiciary Committee	House	Referred To	Dec 15, 2020
Transportation and Infrastructure Committee	House	Referred To	Dec 15, 2020

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Armed Forces and National Security

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Protect Our Civil Liberties Act

This bill limits government surveillance, including by repealing the USA PATRIOT Act and certain provisions of the FISA Amendments Act of 2008, and contains other intelligence-related provisions.

Specifically, the bill repeals all provisions of the FISA Amendments Act of 2008 except for a provision requiring certain Department of Justice reports to Congress and another provision authorizing the acquisition of foreign intelligence from certain entities engaged in the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.

Information that concerns a U.S. person must be destroyed if it was previously collected under the laws repealed by the bill.

The bill also prohibits the federal government from (1) acquiring information relating to a U.S. person by using certain foreign intelligence gathering authority without a warrant, (2) requiring electronics or software manufacturers to install a mechanism for the government to bypass encryption or privacy technology, or (3) retaliating against intelligence community whistleblowers.

The bill also extends the terms of Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court judges from 7 to 10 years and makes such judges eligible for reappointment. Such judges may also appoint special masters to advise the court on technical issues.

The Government Accountability Office must annually evaluate the federal government's compliance with certain laws concerning the collection of foreign intelligence.

Actions Timeline

- **Dec 15, 2020:** Introduced in House
- **Dec 15, 2020:** Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committees on Intelligence (Permanent Select), Financial Services, Foreign Affairs, Energy and Commerce, Education and Labor, Transportation and Infrastructure, and Armed Services, 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.