

HR 5171

Freedom From Union Violence Act of 2021

Congress: 117 (2021–2023, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Crime and Law Enforcement

Introduced: Sep 3, 2021

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security. (Nov 1, 2022)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/5171>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Perry, Scott [R-PA-10]

Party: Republican • **State:** PA • **Chamber:** House

Cosponsors (9 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Babin, Brian [R-TX-36]	R · TX		Sep 3, 2021
Rep. Biggs, Andy [R-AZ-5]	R · AZ		Sep 3, 2021
Rep. Budd, Ted [R-NC-13]	R · NC		Sep 3, 2021
Rep. Cawthorn, Madison [R-NC-11]	R · NC		Sep 3, 2021
Rep. Duncan, Jeff [R-SC-3]	R · SC		Sep 3, 2021
Rep. Gohmert, Louie [R-TX-1]	R · TX		Sep 3, 2021
Rep. Norman, Ralph [R-SC-5]	R · SC		Sep 3, 2021
Rep. Cloud, Michael [R-TX-27]	R · TX		Sep 23, 2021
Rep. Good, Bob [R-VA-5]	R · VA		Sep 30, 2021

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Judiciary Committee	House	Referred to	Nov 1, 2022

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Crime and Law Enforcement

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
117 HR 7194	Related bill	Nov 1, 2022: Referred to the Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual Property, and the Internet.
117 S 3889	Related bill	Mar 22, 2022: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Freedom From Union Violence Act of 2021

This bill revises the federal criminal statute commonly known as the Hobbs Act, which prohibits the obstruction of interstate commerce by robbery or extortion (or by attempting or conspiring to commit robbery or extortion).

Currently, an extortion offense includes obtaining property of another with consent through the wrongful use of force, violence, or fear. Typically, violations are investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and prosecuted by the U.S. Attorney's Office.

First, this bill broadens the scope of prohibited conduct by (1) eliminating the requirement that the means used to obtain property (i.e., the use of force, violence, or fear) must be wrongful, and (2) expanding extortion to include obtaining property of another by wrongful use of fear not involving force or violence.

Second, the bill explicitly states that the maximum fine is \$100,000.

Third, the bill exempts from the federal prohibition conduct that (1) is incidental to peaceful picketing during a labor dispute, (2) consists solely of minor bodily injury or damage to property, and (3) is not part of a pattern of violent conduct or of a coordinated violent activity. A violation involving exempted conduct is subject to prosecution only by state and local authorities.

Actions Timeline

- **Nov 1, 2022:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security.
- **Sep 3, 2021:** Introduced in House
- **Sep 3, 2021:** Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary.