

HR 5329

Small Passenger Vessel Liability Fairness Act of 2021

Congress: 117 (2021–2023, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Transportation and Public Works

Introduced: Sep 22, 2021

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. (Nov 1, 2022)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/5329>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Carbajal, Salud O. [D-CA-24]

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

Cosponsors (1 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Brownley, Julia [D-CA-26]	D · CA		Sep 22, 2021

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Judiciary Committee	House	Referred to	Nov 1, 2022
Transportation and Infrastructure Committee	House	Referred to	Sep 23, 2021

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Transportation and Public Works

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
117 S 2805	Identical bill	Sep 22, 2021: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. (Sponsor introductory remarks on measure: CR S6626)

Small Passenger Vessel Liability Fairness Act of 2021

This bill revises maritime law regarding the liability of owners of certain small passenger vessels for violations of safety rules resulting in accidents on such vessels. Under current law, owners may avoid liability in some cases depending on the value of their vessels after accidents. The bill requires the Coast Guard to promulgate rules that require owners or operators of small passenger vessels to provide just compensation in any claim for which they are found liable.

The bill makes the revised liability provisions retroactive to September 2, 2019, the date of what is known as the *Conception* boat fire in which 34 lives were lost.

Actions Timeline

- **Nov 1, 2022:** Referred to the Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights, and Civil Liberties.
- **Sep 23, 2021:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation.
- **Sep 22, 2021:** Introduced in House
- **Sep 22, 2021:** Referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, 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.