

S 1085

Hammers' Law

Congress: 118 (2023–2025, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Transportation and Public Works

Introduced: Mar 30, 2023

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. (Mar 30, 2023)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/senate-bill/1085>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Fischer, Deb [R-NE]

Party: Republican • **State:** NE • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (3 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Blumenthal, Richard [D-CT]	D · CT		Mar 30, 2023
Sen. Capito, Shelley Moore [R-WV]	R · WV		Nov 29, 2023
Sen. Ricketts, Pete [R-NE]	R · NE		Jan 18, 2024

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee	Senate	Referred To	Mar 30, 2023

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Transportation and Public Works

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
118 HR 3788	Identical bill	Jun 1, 2023: Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary.

Summary (as of Mar 30, 2023)

Hammers' Law

This bill authorizes a party in a civil suit to recover nonpecuniary damages (i.e., damages for loss of care, comfort, and companionship) when an individual dies as a result of a cruise ship accident that occurred on the high seas beyond 12 nautical miles from the U.S. shore. The nonpecuniary damages may be in addition to other damages, but punitive damages are not recoverable. Current law already permits these damages to be recovered if a death was caused by a commercial aviation accident on the high seas.

Actions Timeline

- **Mar 30, 2023:** Introduced in Senate
- **Mar 30, 2023:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.