

HR 3168

To establish a Joint Autonomy Office in the Department of Defense, and for other purposes.

Congress: 118 (2023–2025, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Armed Forces and National Security

Introduced: May 9, 2023

Current Status: Referred to the House Committee on Armed Services.

Latest Action: Referred to the House Committee on Armed Services. (May 9, 2023)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-bill/3168>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Wittman, Robert J. [R-VA-1]

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

Cosponsors (2 total)

| Cosponsor | Party / State | Role | Date Joined |
|--|---------------|------|-------------|
| Rep. Ruppersberger, C. A. Dutch [D-MD-2] | D · MD | | May 9, 2023 |
| Rep. Obernolte, Jay [R-CA-23] | R · CA | | Jun 5, 2023 |

Committee Activity

| Committee | Chamber | Activity | Date |
|--------------------------|---------|-------------|-------------|
| Armed Services Committee | House | Referred To | May 9, 2023 |

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Armed Forces and National Security

Related Bills

| Bill | Relationship | Last Action |
|-------------|--------------|---|
| 118 HR 2670 | Related bill | Dec 22, 2023: Became Public Law No: 118-31. |

This bill requires the Department of Defense (DOD) to establish the Joint Autonomy Office to coordinate and accelerate the delivery of all-domain autonomous systems to operational users. Under the bill, an autonomous system means a system with the ability to conduct integrated sensing, perception, communication, decision-making, and action within specific boundaries and independently from a human operator's instruction.

The office may contract with private sector entities to aid and facilitate the execution of its duties. DOD must brief Congress on the status of the office not later than 90 days after the enactment of this bill.

The office must establish a department-wide classification framework for autonomous capabilities. The office must regularly reassess and update the framework to ensure it incorporates recent developments in technology, standards, and operational requirements relating to autonomous capabilities. The office must brief Congress on the results of the reassessments and any resulting revisions.

Additionally, the office must develop and implement a plan and procedures to standardize the planning, resourcing, and integration efforts with respect to autonomous capabilities for current and future systems across DOD.

Actions Timeline

- **May 9, 2023:** Introduced in House
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