

HR 3788

Hammers' Law

Congress: 118 (2023–2025, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Transportation and Public Works

Introduced: Jun 1, 2023

Current Status: Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary.

Latest Action: Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary. (Jun 1, 2023)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-bill/3788>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Bacon, Don [R-NE-2]

Party: Republican • State: NE • Chamber: House

Cosponsors (3 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Matsui, Doris O. [D-CA-7]	D · CA		Jun 1, 2023
Rep. Scanlon, Mary Gay [D-PA-5]	D · PA		Jun 1, 2023
Rep. Van Drew, Jefferson [R-NJ-2]	R · NJ		Jun 1, 2023

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Judiciary Committee	House	Referred To	Jun 1, 2023

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Transportation and Public Works

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
118 S 1085	Identical bill	Mar 30, 2023: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

Summary (as of Jun 1, 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

- **Jun 1, 2023:** Introduced in House
- **Jun 1, 2023:** Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary.