

HR 4250

PRESS Act

Congress: 118 (2023–2025, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Science, Technology, Communications

Introduced: Jun 21, 2023

Current Status: Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Latest Action: Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. (Jan 22, 2024)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-bill/4250>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Kiley, Kevin [R-CA-3]

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

Cosponsors (19 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Del. Norton, Eleanor Holmes [D-DC-At Large]	D · DC		Jun 21, 2023
Rep. Issa, Darrell E. [R-CA-48]	R · CA		Jun 21, 2023
Rep. Lieu, Ted [D-CA-36]	D · CA		Jun 21, 2023
Rep. Moore, Barry [R-AL-2]	R · AL		Jun 21, 2023
Rep. Raskin, Jamie [D-MD-8]	D · MD		Jun 21, 2023
Rep. Fry, Russell [R-SC-7]	R · SC		Jun 22, 2023
Rep. Lee, Barbara [D-CA-12]	D · CA		Jun 22, 2023
Rep. Armstrong, Kelly [R-ND-At Large]	R · ND		Jul 14, 2023
Rep. Hageman, Harriet M. [R-WY-At Large]	R · WY		Jul 14, 2023
Rep. Kildee, Daniel T. [D-MI-8]	D · MI		Jul 14, 2023
Rep. Tlaib, Rashida [D-MI-12]	D · MI		Jul 14, 2023
Rep. Cline, Ben [R-VA-6]	R · VA		Jul 28, 2023
Rep. Jackson Lee, Sheila [D-TX-18]	D · TX		Jul 28, 2023
Rep. Hinson, Ashley [R-IA-2]	R · IA		Aug 25, 2023
Rep. Lofgren, Zoe [D-CA-18]	D · CA		Aug 25, 2023
Rep. Johnson, Henry C. "Hank," Jr. [D-GA-4]	D · GA		Sep 1, 2023
Rep. Napolitano, Grace F. [D-CA-31]	D · CA		Sep 1, 2023
Rep. Obernolte, Jay [R-CA-23]	R · CA		Sep 1, 2023
Rep. Valadao, David G. [R-CA-22]	R · CA		Sep 1, 2023

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Judiciary Committee	House	Reported By	Dec 5, 2023
Judiciary Committee	Senate	Referred To	Jan 22, 2024

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Science, Technology, Communications

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
118 S 2074	Identical bill	Jun 21, 2023: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Summary (as of Dec 5, 2023)

Protect Reporters from Exploitative State Spying Act or the PRESS Act

This bill prohibits the federal government from compelling journalists and providers of telecommunications services (e.g., phone and internet companies) to disclose certain protected information, except in limited circumstances such as to prevent terrorism or imminent violence.

Specifically, the bill protects from disclosure any information identifying a source, as well as any records, contents of a communication, documents, or information obtained or created by journalists in the course of their work.

Further, the bill protects specified third parties, such as telecommunications carriers or social media companies, from being compelled to provide testimony or any document consisting of a record, information, or other communication that is stored by the third party on behalf of a journalist.

Actions Timeline

- **Jan 22, 2024:** Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.
- **Jan 18, 2024:** Considered as unfinished business. (consideration: CR H229)
- **Jan 18, 2024:** Passed/agreed to in House: On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill Agreed to by voice vote. (text: 1/16/2024 CR H143)
- **Jan 18, 2024:** On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill Agreed to by voice vote. (text: 1/16/2024 CR H143)
- **Jan 18, 2024:** Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
- **Jan 16, 2024:** Mr. Kiley moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill.
- **Jan 16, 2024:** Considered under suspension of the rules. (consideration: CR H143-145)
- **Jan 16, 2024:** DEBATE - The House proceeded with forty minutes of debate on H.R. 4250.
- **Jan 16, 2024:** At the conclusion of debate, the chair put the question on the motion to suspend the rules. Mr. Kiley objected to the vote on the grounds that a quorum was not present. Further proceedings on the motion were postponed. The point of no quorum was considered as withdrawn.
- **Dec 5, 2023:** Reported by the Committee on Judiciary. H. Rept. 118-299.
- **Dec 5, 2023:** Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 242.
- **Jul 19, 2023:** Ordered to be Reported by the Yeas and Nays: 23 - 0.
- **Jul 19, 2023:** Committee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held
- **Jun 21, 2023:** Introduced in House
- **Jun 21, 2023:** Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary.