

HR 1223

ANCHOR Act

Congress: 119 (2025–2027, Current)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Science, Technology, Communications

Introduced: Feb 12, 2025

Current Status: Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transp

Latest Action: Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. (May 21, 2025)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/119th-congress/house-bill/1223>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Fong, Vince [R-CA-20]

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

Cosponsors (5 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Stevens, Haley M. [D-MI-11]	D · MI		Feb 12, 2025
Rep. McBride, Sarah [D-DE-At Large]	D · DE		Feb 24, 2025
Rep. Obernolte, Jay [R-CA-23]	R · CA		Feb 24, 2025
Rep. Begich, Nicholas J. [R-AK-At Large]	R · AK		May 5, 2025
Rep. Riley, Josh [D-NY-19]	D · NY		May 5, 2025

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee	Senate	Referred To	May 21, 2025
Science, Space, and Technology Committee	House	Markup By	Apr 29, 2025

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Science, Technology, Communications

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Accelerating Networking, Cyberinfrastructure, and Hardware for Oceanic Research Act or the ANCHOR Act

This bill requires the National Science Foundation (NSF) to develop a plan to improve the cybersecurity and telecommunications capabilities of the U.S. Academic Research Fleet (ARF).

ARF is comprised of U.S.-flagged vessels that provide at-sea laboratories where oceanographic scientists, educators, and students research and learn about marine science.

The bill requires the plan to include assessments of

- telecommunications and networking needs of ARF, consistent with typical scientific missions;
- cybersecurity needs appropriate for the operation of ARF vessels and their specific research functions;
- the costs necessary to meet these needs;
- the time required to implement necessary upgrades; and
- opportunities for the adoption of common solutions or consortial licensing agreements, or for the centralization of cybersecurity, telecommunications, or data management at a single facility.

The plan must also include a spending plan for the NSF, the Office of Naval Research, nonfederal owners of ARF vessels, and users of the vessels to cover identified costs.

Among other factors specified in the bill, the NSF must consider, as appropriate, the network capabilities necessary to meet mission needs (e.g., to upload data to cloud-based or shoreside servers), international standards and guidance for information security, and requirements for controlled unclassified or classified information.

The plan must be provided to Congress within 18 months of the bill's enactment, and the NSF must later report to Congress on the plan's implementation.

Actions Timeline

- **May 21, 2025:** Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.
- **May 20, 2025:** Considered as unfinished business. (consideration: CR H2168)
- **May 20, 2025:** Passed/agreed to in House: On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill Agreed to by the Yeas and Nays: (2/3 required): 412 - 11 (Roll no. 136). (text: 5/19/2025 CR H2113-2114)
- **May 20, 2025:** On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill Agreed to by the Yeas and Nays: (2/3 required): 412 - 11 (Roll no. 136). (text: 5/19/2025 CR H2113-2114)
- **May 20, 2025:** Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
- **May 19, 2025:** Mr. Fong moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill.
- **May 19, 2025:** Considered under suspension of the rules. (consideration: CR H2113-2115)
- **May 19, 2025:** DEBATE - The House proceeded with forty minutes of debate on H.R. 1223.
- **May 19, 2025:** At the conclusion of debate, the chair put the question on the motion to suspend the rules. Mr. Babin 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.
- **Apr 29, 2025:** Committee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held
- **Apr 29, 2025:** Ordered to be Reported by Voice Vote.
- **Feb 12, 2025:** Introduced in House
- **Feb 12, 2025:** Referred to the House Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

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