

## HR 2185

Mink VIRUS Act

**Congress:** 119 (2025–2027, Current)

**Chamber:** House

**Policy Area:** Agriculture and Food

**Introduced:** Mar 18, 2025

**Current Status:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Livestock, Dairy, and Poultry.

**Latest Action:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Livestock, Dairy, and Poultry. (Apr 18, 2025)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/119th-congress/house-bill/2185>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Rep. Espaillat, Adriano [D-NY-13]

**Party:** Democratic • **State:** NY • **Chamber:** House

### Cosponsors (3 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Barragán, Nanette Diaz [D-CA-44]	D · CA		Mar 18, 2025
Rep. Fitzpatrick, Brian K. [R-PA-1]	R · PA		Mar 18, 2025
Rep. Frost, Maxwell [D-FL-10]	D · FL		Mar 18, 2025

### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Agriculture Committee	House	Referred to	Apr 18, 2025
Budget Committee	House	Referred To	Mar 18, 2025

### Subjects & Policy Tags

#### Policy Area:

Agriculture and Food

### Related Bills

*No related bills are listed.*

## **Mink: Vectors for Infection Risk in the United States Act or the Mink VIRUS Act**

This bill prohibits the farming of mink for their fur beginning one year after the bill's enactment and establishes a compensation program.

Beginning 90 days after the bill's enactment, any termination of farmed mink must be done in a manner that (1) meets the definition of *euthanasia* specified in Department of Agriculture (USDA) regulations (i.e., the humane destruction of an animal accomplished by a method that produces rapid unconsciousness and subsequent death without evidence of pain or distress, or that utilizes anesthesia that causes painless loss of consciousness and subsequent death); and (2) is classified as acceptable by the American Veterinary Medical Association Guidelines for the Euthanasia of Animals.

This prohibition and these requirements do not preempt or limit any state law or regulation that is more restrictive. Further, any person in violation of this prohibition or these requirements is subject to civil penalties.

USDA must establish a payment program to compensate fur farm owners whose operations involve the farming of mink. Under the program, USDA must provide payments for (1) the reasonable costs incurred to comply with this bill, and (2) the market value of the portion of the farm involving mink farming (exclusive of the land). Fur farm owners may not use payment funds for fur farm operations. Further, the owner must provide USDA with a permanent property easement that prohibits the operation of any fur farm on the easement area.







jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

- **Mar 18, 2025:** Referred to the Committee on Agriculture, and in addition to the Committee on the Budget, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.
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