

HR 227

Clergy Act

Congress: 119 (2025–2027, Current)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Social Welfare

Introduced: Jan 7, 2025

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

Latest Action: Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance. (Apr 28, 2026)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/119th-congress/house-bill/227>

Sponsor

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

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

Cosponsors (21 total)

| Cosponsor | Party / State | Role | Date Joined |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|------|--------------|
| Rep. Kelly, Mike [R-PA-16] | R · PA | | Jan 7, 2025 |
| Rep. Thompson, Mike [D-CA-4] | D · CA | | Jan 7, 2025 |
| Rep. Ciscomani, Juan [R-AZ-6] | R · AZ | | Jan 9, 2025 |
| Rep. DelBene, Suzan K. [D-WA-1] | D · WA | | Jan 9, 2025 |
| Rep. LaHood, Darin [R-IL-16] | R · IL | | Jan 9, 2025 |
| Rep. Smucker, Lloyd [R-PA-11] | R · PA | | Jan 31, 2025 |
| Rep. Yakym, Rudy [R-IN-2] | R · IN | | Jun 10, 2025 |
| Rep. Estes, Ron [R-KS-4] | R · KS | | Jul 21, 2025 |
| Rep. Smith, Adrian [R-NE-3] | R · NE | | Jul 21, 2025 |
| Rep. Carey, Mike [R-OH-15] | R · OH | | Jul 22, 2025 |
| Rep. Moran, Nathaniel [R-TX-1] | R · TX | | Jul 23, 2025 |
| Rep. Bilirakis, Gus M. [R-FL-12] | R · FL | | Jul 25, 2025 |
| Rep. Tenney, Claudia [R-NY-24] | R · NY | | Sep 8, 2025 |
| Rep. Murphy, Gregory F. [R-NC-3] | R · NC | | Sep 9, 2025 |
| Rep. Panetta, Jimmy [D-CA-19] | D · CA | | Sep 15, 2025 |
| Rep. Letlow, Julia [R-LA-5] | R · LA | | Sep 18, 2025 |
| Rep. Van Duyne, Beth [R-TX-24] | R · TX | | Sep 18, 2025 |
| Rep. Costa, Jim [D-CA-21] | D · CA | | Oct 21, 2025 |
| Rep. Suozzi, Thomas R. [D-NY-3] | D · NY | | Nov 17, 2025 |
| Rep. Davis, Danny K. [D-IL-7] | D · IL | | Nov 25, 2025 |
| Rep. Fitzpatrick, Brian K. [R-PA-1] | R · PA | | Dec 9, 2025 |

Committee Activity

| Committee | Chamber | Activity | Date |
|--------------------------|---------|-------------|--------------|
| Finance Committee | Senate | Referred To | Apr 28, 2026 |
| Ways and Means Committee | House | Referred To | Jan 7, 2025 |
| Ways and Means Committee | House | Markup By | Dec 10, 2025 |
| Ways and Means Committee | House | Reported By | Jan 7, 2026 |

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Social Welfare

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Summary (as of Jan 7, 2025)

Clergy Act

This bill establishes a two-year window for certain members of the clergy and Christian Science practitioners to revoke their exemption from Social Security and Medicare taxes on ministerial earnings. Under current law, such individuals who object to participation in public insurance programs on religious or conscientious grounds may apply to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) for an irrevocable exemption and will not receive Social Security or Medicare benefits in retirement unless they have qualifying credits from other employment.

The IRS must develop a plan to inform members of the clergy and Christian Science practitioners of their eligibility to revoke prior exemptions, pursuant to the bill's changes.

Actions Timeline

- **Apr 28, 2026:** Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.
- **Apr 27, 2026:** Mr. Carey moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.
- **Apr 27, 2026:** Considered under suspension of the rules. (consideration: CR H3115-3116)
- **Apr 27, 2026:** DEBATE - The House proceeded with forty minutes of debate on H.R. 227.
- **Apr 27, 2026:** At the conclusion of debate, the Yeas and Nays were demanded and ordered. Pursuant to the provisions of clause 8, rule XX, the Chair announced that further proceedings on the motion would be postponed.
- **Apr 27, 2026:** Considered as unfinished business. (consideration: CR H3118-3119)
- **Apr 27, 2026:** Passed/agreed to in House: On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended Agreed to by the Yeas and Nays: (2/3 required): 350 - 5 (Roll no. 139). (text: CR H3115-3116)
- **Apr 27, 2026:** On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended Agreed to by the Yeas and Nays: (2/3 required): 350 - 5 (Roll no. 139). (text: CR H3115-3116)
- **Apr 27, 2026:** Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
- **Apr 27, 2026:** Passed/agreed to in House: On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended Agreed to by the Yeas and Nays: (2/3 required): 350 - 5 (Roll no. 139).
- **Jan 7, 2026:** Reported (Amended) by the Committee on Ways and Means. H. Rept. 119-425.
- **Jan 7, 2026:** Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 370.
- **Dec 10, 2025:** Committee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held
- **Dec 10, 2025:** Ordered to be Reported in the Nature of a Substitute (Amended) by the Yeas and Nays: 40 - 0.
- **Jan 7, 2025:** Introduced in House
- **Jan 7, 2025:** Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means.

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