

HR 5874

Firearm Access During Shutdowns Act

Congress: 119 (2025–2027, Current)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Crime and Law Enforcement

Introduced: Oct 31, 2025

Current Status: Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, for

Latest Action: Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, 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. (Oct 31, 2025)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/119th-congress/house-bill/5874>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Cline, Ben [R-VA-6]

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

Cosponsors (43 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Boebert, Lauren [R-CO-4]	R · CO		Oct 31, 2025
Rep. Burlison, Eric [R-MO-7]	R · MO		Oct 31, 2025
Rep. Carter, Earl L. "Buddy" [R-GA-1]	R · GA		Oct 31, 2025
Rep. Cloud, Michael [R-TX-27]	R · TX		Oct 31, 2025
Rep. Collins, Mike [R-GA-10]	R · GA		Oct 31, 2025
Rep. DesJarlais, Scott [R-TN-4]	R · TN		Oct 31, 2025
Rep. Downing, Troy [R-MT-2]	R · MT		Oct 31, 2025
Rep. Feenstra, Randy [R-IA-4]	R · IA		Oct 31, 2025
Rep. Fine, Randy [R-FL-6]	R · FL		Oct 31, 2025
Rep. Fitzgerald, Scott [R-WI-5]	R · WI		Oct 31, 2025
Rep. Gooden, Lance [R-TX-5]	R · TX		Oct 31, 2025
Rep. Hageman, Harriet M. [R-WY-At Large]	R · WY		Oct 31, 2025
Rep. Harris, Mark [R-NC-8]	R · NC		Oct 31, 2025
Rep. Higgins, Clay [R-LA-3]	R · LA		Oct 31, 2025
Rep. Hunt, Wesley [R-TX-38]	R · TX		Oct 31, 2025
Rep. Jackson, Ronny [R-TX-13]	R · TX		Oct 31, 2025
Rep. Mace, Nancy [R-SC-1]	R · SC		Oct 31, 2025
Rep. McCormick, Richard [R-GA-7]	R · GA		Oct 31, 2025
Rep. Moore, Barry [R-AL-1]	R · AL		Oct 31, 2025
Rep. Moore, Riley M. [R-WV-2]	R · WV		Oct 31, 2025
Rep. Weber, Randy K. Sr. [R-TX-14]	R · TX		Oct 31, 2025
Rep. Webster, Daniel [R-FL-11]	R · FL		Oct 31, 2025
Rep. Biggs, Sheri [R-SC-3]	R · SC		Nov 4, 2025
Rep. Fulcher, Russ [R-ID-1]	R · ID		Nov 4, 2025
Rep. Harrigan, Pat [R-NC-10]	R · NC		Nov 4, 2025
Rep. Harris, Andy [R-MD-1]	R · MD		Nov 4, 2025
Rep. Hurd, Jeff [R-CO-3]	R · CO		Nov 4, 2025
Rep. Shreve, Jefferson [R-IN-6]	R · IN		Nov 4, 2025
Rep. Comer, James [R-KY-1]	R · KY		Nov 7, 2025
Rep. Gill, Brandon [R-TX-26]	R · TX		Nov 7, 2025
Rep. McGuire, John J. [R-VA-5]	R · VA		Nov 7, 2025
Rep. Latta, Robert E. [R-OH-5]	R · OH		Nov 12, 2025
Rep. Mann, Tracey [R-KS-1]	R · KS		Nov 12, 2025
Rep. Miller, Mary E. [R-IL-15]	R · IL		Nov 12, 2025
Rep. Pfluger, August [R-TX-11]	R · TX		Nov 12, 2025
Rep. Stauber, Pete [R-MN-8]	R · MN		Nov 12, 2025
Rep. Ezell, Mike [R-MS-4]	R · MS		Nov 19, 2025
Rep. Rulli, Michael A. [R-OH-6]	R · OH		Nov 19, 2025
Rep. Smith, Adrian [R-NE-3]	R · NE		Nov 19, 2025
Rep. Begich, Nicholas J. [R-AK-At Large]	R · AK		Dec 3, 2025
Rep. Carter, John R. [R-TX-31]	R · TX		Dec 10, 2025

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Fedorchak, Julie [R-ND-At Large]	R · ND		Apr 9, 2026
Rep. Owens, Burgess [R-UT-4]	R · UT		Apr 15, 2026

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Foreign Affairs Committee	House	Referred To	Oct 31, 2025
Judiciary Committee	House	Referred To	Oct 31, 2025

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Crime and Law Enforcement

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
119 S 3085	Related bill	Oct 30, 2025: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Summary (as of Oct 31, 2025)

Firearm Access During Shutdowns Act

This bill requires various federal agencies to continue certain operations, functions, and services related to firearms during a government shutdown.

The bill applies to

- the Federal Bureau of Investigation's National Instant Criminal Background Check System, including the processing of background checks in support of the operations of the Directorate of Enforcement Programs and Services of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF);
- the ATF's Directorate of Enforcement Programs and Services;
- the activities of the Department of Commerce's Bureau of Industry and Security relating to firearms and firearm-related products, including activities related to processing of applications for export licenses; and
- the activities of the Department of State's Directorate of Defense Trade Controls relating to firearms and firearm-related products, including activities related to processing of applications for export licenses.

Under the bill, (1) these operations, functions, and services are deemed to relate to an emergency involving the safety of human life or the protection of property; and (2) employees carrying out the operations, functions, and services are deemed to be excepted employees. (Under an exception in the Antideficiency Act, an employee whose duties involve the safety of human life or the protection of property may be required to work during a government shutdown. Employees who are required to work during a government shutdown because they fall under this or other exceptions are known as excepted employees.)

Actions Timeline

- **Oct 31, 2025:** Introduced in House
- **Oct 31, 2025:** Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, 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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