

CAGS WASHINGTON WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

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House

Representative Zoe Lofgren (D-CA) introduced H. R. 3035: Surveillance Order Reporting Act of 2013 on August 2, 2013. If passed, H. R. 3035 would allow electronic service providers to inform the public of inquiries and demands for information made by any government entity without being held "liable with respect to that report." The bill was assigned to the House Financial Services, House Judiciary, and House Intelligence (Permanent Select) committees and awaits consideration.

Representative James "Jim" Langevin (D-RI) introduced H. R. 3032: The Executive Cyberspace Coordination Act of 2013 on August 2, 2013. The bill aims to bolster national defense against cyber threats by expanding the abilities of the federal government to respond to challenges in cyberspace. A major provision of the bill is the establishment of the National Office for Cyberspace, which would serve as the "principle office of coordinating issues related to cyberspace."

Representative Pat Meehan (R-PA) introduced H. R. 2952: CIRDA Act of 2013 on August 1, 2013. H. R. 2952 amends the Homeland Security Act of 2002 by making certain improvements to current law relating to the advancement of security technology for critical infrastructure protection. The bill was assigned to the House Committee on Homeland security.

H. R. 850: Nuclear Iran Prevention Act of 2013 passed 400/20 in the House on July 31, 2013. Sponsored by Representative Ed Royce (R-CA), H. R. 850 was introduced on February 27, 2013. The bill imposes additional human rights and economic financial sanctions with respect to Iran. It also strengthens existing sanctions on foreign oil purchases. It is currently awaiting consideration in the Senate.

Senate

Senator Robert Menéndez (D-NJ), Chairman of the Senate Foreign Affairs Committee, introduced S. 1386: Chris Stevens, Sean Smith, Tyrone Woods, and Glen Doherty Embassy Security, Threat Mitigation, and Personnel Protection Act of 2013 on July 30, 2013. Created in response to the 2012 Benghazi attack, the bill is designed to prevent future attacks on U.S. diplomatic posts. S. 1386 authorizes greater appropriations for the Department of State to improve security and language training of personnel assigned to "high threat, high risk posts." The bill was assigned to the Senate Foreign Relations committee, which voted to report the bill on August 1, 2013.

Senator Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH) introduced S. 1464: Preserving American Access to Information Act on August 1, 2013. S. 1464 is designed to facilitate and enhance the declassification of information that merits declassification. The bill was assigned to the Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, where it is awaiting consideration.

Senator Al Franken (D-MN) introduced S. 1452: Surveillance Transparency Act of 2013 on August 1, 2013. S. 1452 enhances transparency for certain surveillance programs authorized per the text of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978. It amends the Act by requiring the Attorney General to submit reports specifying the number of Americans that were subject to government surveillance and by what means. The bill was assigned to the Senate Judiciary Committee and awaits consideration.

Senator Richard Durbin (D-IL) introduced S. 1429: Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2014 on August 1, 2013. S. 1429 makes appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014. It was referred to the Senate Appropriations Committee and awaits consideration.

Senator Richard Blumenthal (D-CT) introduced S. 1426: Password Protection Act of 2013 on August 1, 2013. S. 1426 prohibits employers from coercing or forcing any person to grant access to a protected computer that is not the employer's protected computer. It also disallows employers to seek disciplinary action against any person who fails to authorize such access. It was referred to the House Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Joe Wilson (R-SC)

H. Con. Res. 48. Concurrent resolution commemorating the 46th anniversary of the reunification of Jerusalem; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

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