

# Arizona Game & Fish Department

## Congressional Courant

113th Congress, 1st Session

May 2013

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### Congressional Courant

is published by the Arizona Game and Fish Department's Legislative/Government Affairs Division throughout the year. We research Congressional legislation as it is introduced and provide a summary of congressional legislation and federal bureau/agency action that potentially pertains to the Department's management of the state's wildlife and wildlife resources.

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113<sup>th</sup> Congress 1<sup>st</sup> Session

1<sup>st</sup> Session Convened January 3, 2013

\*Highlighted information indicates that the information has changed or been added since the last issue of the Congressional Courant.

\*The Arizona Game and Fish Commission's formal positions on legislation are indicated in the summaries below.

**\*This list is not an exhaustive list of all legislation the Department is tracking but simply legislation that may impact the Department as introduced.**

## Support

**HR 596** Public Lands Renewable Energy Development Act of 2013 (Gosar)

## Oppose

N/A

## Spotlight

### H.R.1799

**Latest Title:** To designate certain public lands in the Sonoran Desert of the State of Arizona as national conservation areas and wilderness areas, and for other purposes.

**Sponsor:** [Rep Grijalva, Raul M.](#) [AZ-3] (introduced 4/26/2013)      **Cosponsors** (None)

**Latest Major Action:** 4/26/2013 Referred to House committee. Status: Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.

### H.R.638

**Latest Title:** National Wildlife Refuge Review Act of 2013

**Sponsor:** [Rep Fleming, John](#) [LA-4] (introduced 2/13/2013)      **Cosponsors** (12)

**Latest Major Action:** 4/25/2013 House committee/subcommittee actions. Status: Subcommittee Hearings Held.

**SUMMARY:** National Wildlife Refuge Review Act of 2013 - Amends the National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act of 1966 to prohibit the Secretary of the Interior from establishing any new national wildlife refuges, except as expressly authorized by a law enacted after January 3, 2013.

## Monitored Legislation

H.R. 65: Child Gun Safety and Gun Access Prevention Act of 2013

H.R. 226: Support Assault Firearms Elimination and Reduction for our Streets Act

H.R. 263: National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Reauthorization Act of 2013

H.R. 322: Hunting, Fishing, and Recreational Shooting Protection Act

H.R. 437: Assault Weapons Ban of 2013

H.R. 507: Pascua Yaqui Tribe Trust Land Act



H.R. 545: Prioritize Emergency Job Creation Act  
H.R. 546: Promoting Partnerships to Transform Opportunities Act  
H.R. 547: Border Security and Responsibility Act of 2013  
H.R. 548: Border Infrastructure and Jobs Act of 2013  
H.R. 596: Public Lands Renewable Energy Development Act of 2013  
H.R. 638: National Wildlife Refuge Review Act of 2013  
H.R. 687: Southeast Arizona Land Exchange and Conservation Act of 2013  
H.R. 696: Lyon County Economic Development and Conservation Act  
H.R. 826: Freedom to Fish Act of 2013  
H.R. 862: To authorize the conveyance of two small parcels of land ...  
H.R. 910: Sikes Act Reauthorization Act of 2013  
H.R. 1080: To amend the Sikes Act to promote the use of ...  
H.R. 1137: Joint Ventures for Bird Habitat Conservation Act of 2013  
H.R. 1206: Permanent Electronic Duck Stamp Act of 2013  
H.R. 1345: Catastrophic Wildfire Prevention Act of 2013  
H.R. 1348: Great Bend of the Gila National Monument Establishment Act  
H.R. 1350: Grand Canyon Watersheds Protection Act of 2013  
H.R. 1351: Public Lands Service Corps Act of 2013  
H.R. 1495: Arizona Land Sovereignty Act  
H.R. 1528: Veterinary Medicine Mobility Act of 2013  
H.R. 1799: To designate certain public lands in the Sonoran Desert of Arizona  
S. 51: National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Reauthorization Act of 2013  
S. 89: Migratory Bird Treaty Amendment Act of 2013  
S. 150: Assault Weapons Ban of 2013  
S. 170: Recreational Fishing and Hunting Heritage and Opportunities Act  
S. 279: Public Land Renewable Energy Development Act of 2013  
S. 338: Land and Water Conservation Authorization and Funding Act of 2013  
S. 339: Southeast Arizona Land Exchange and Conservation Act of 2013  
S. 649: Safe Communities, Safe Schools Act of 2013  
S. 689: Mental Health Awareness and Improvement Act of 2013  
S. 738: Permanent Electronic Duck Stamp Act of 2013

## **Wildlife Fishing & Hunting Legislation**

### **[H.R.263](#)**

**Latest Title:** National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Reauthorization Act of 2013

**Sponsor:** [Rep Grimm, Michael G.](#) [NY-11] (introduced 1/15/2013)      [Cosponsors](#) (1)

**Related Bills:** [S.51](#)

**Latest Major Action:** 1/31/2013 Referred to House subcommittee. Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife, Oceans, and Insular Affairs.

**Summary:** Reauthorizes and revises the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Establishment Act.



## [H.R.322](#)

**Latest Title:** Hunting, Fishing, and Recreational Shooting Protection Act

**Sponsor:** [Rep Miller, Jeff](#) [FL-1] (introduced 1/18/2013) [Cosponsors](#) (85)

**Latest Major Action:** 1/18/2013 Referred to House subcommittee. Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Environment and the Economy.

**SUMMARY:** Hunting, Fishing, and Recreational Shooting Protection Act - Amends the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) to exclude from the definition of "chemical substance" for purposes of such Act: (1) any component of any pistol, revolver, firearm, shell, or cartridge the sale of which is subject to federal excise tax, including shot, bullets and other projectiles, propellants, and primers; and (2) any sport fishing equipment the sale of which is subject to federal excise tax and sport fishing equipment components.

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## [H.R.507](#)

**Latest Title:** Pascua Yaqui Tribe Trust Land Act

**Sponsor:** [Rep Grijalva, Raul M.](#) [AZ-3] (introduced 2/5/2013) [Cosponsors](#) (8)

**Latest Major Action:** 4/9/2013 **Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 15.**

**House Reports:** [113-27](#)

**SUMMARY:** Pascua Yaqui Tribe Trust Land Act - Holds in trust for the Pascua Yaqui Tribe of Arizona all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to approximately 10 acres of federal land generally depicted as parcel A, and approximately 10 acres of federal land generally depicted as parcel B, on the map titled "PYT Land Department," dated January 15, 2013.

Makes that conveyance effective on the day after the date on which: (1) the Tucson Unified School District relinquishes all right, title, and interest to the parcel B land; and (2) the Secretary of the Interior approves and records the lease agreement between the Tribe and the District for the construction and operation of a regional transportation facility located on the Tribe's restricted land. Prohibits gaming on the lands held in trust under this Act. Prohibits the forfeiture or abandonment of any water rights that are appurtenant to such lands.

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## [H.R.596](#)

**Latest Title:** Public Lands Renewable Energy Development Act of 2013

**Sponsor:** [Rep Gosar, Paul A.](#) [AZ-4] (introduced 2/8/2013) [Cosponsors](#) (31)

**Latest Major Action:** 2/25/2013 Referred to House subcommittee. Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Conservation, Energy, and Forestry.

**SUMMARY:** Public Lands Renewable Energy Development Act of 2013 - Amends the Energy Policy Act of 2005 to require amounts received through FY2020 (currently, through FY2010) from leases under the Geothermal Steam Act of 1970 to be available to the Secretary of the Interior to spend in such amounts as are provided in advance appropriations acts for implementing such Acts.

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## [H.R.638](#)

**Latest Title:** National Wildlife Refuge Review Act of 2013

**Sponsor:** [Rep Fleming, John](#) [LA-4] (introduced 2/13/2013) [Cosponsors](#) (12)



**Latest Major Action:** 4/25/2013 House committee/subcommittee actions. Status: Subcommittee Hearings Held.

**SUMMARY:** National Wildlife Refuge Review Act of 2013 - Amends the National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act of 1966 to prohibit the Secretary of the Interior from establishing any new national wildlife refuges, except as expressly authorized by a law enacted after January 3, 2013.

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## [H.R.687](#)

**Latest Title:** Southeast Arizona Land Exchange and Conservation Act of 2013

**Sponsor:** [Rep Gosar, Paul A.](#) [AZ-4] (introduced 2/14/2013) [Cosponsors](#) (4)

**Related Bills:** [S.339](#)

**Latest Major Action:** 3/21/2013 House committee/subcommittee actions. Status: Subcommittee Hearings Held.

**SUMMARY:** Southeast Arizona Land Exchange and Conservation Act of 2013 - Authorizes and directs the Secretary of Agriculture (USDA) (the Secretary), if Resolution Copper Mining, LLC offers to convey specified parcels of non-federal land in Gila, Yavapi, Maricopa, Coconino, Pinal, and/or Santa Cruz Counties, Arizona, that are acceptable to the Secretary or the Secretary of the Interior, to convey certain federal land in Pinal County, Arizona, to Resolution Copper.

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## [H.R.826](#)

**Latest Title:** Freedom to Fish Act of 2013

**Sponsor:** [Rep Whitfield, Ed](#) [KY-1] (introduced 2/26/2013) [Cosponsors](#) (5)

**Related Bills:** [S.421](#)

**Latest Major Action:** 2/27/2013 Referred to House subcommittee. Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment.

**SUMMARY:** Freedom to Fish Act of 2013 - Prohibits the Chief of the Army Corps of Engineers from taking any action (after August 1, 2012) to establish a restricted area prohibiting public access to waters downstream of a dam owned by the Corps. Requires the Chief to cease implementing any restricted area resulting from such action taken between August 12, 2012, and the date of enactment of this Act and to remove any barriers constructed in connection with that area.

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## [H.R.910](#)

**Latest Title:** Sikes Act Reauthorization Act of 2013

**Sponsor:** [Rep Fleming, John](#) [LA-4] (introduced 2/28/2013) [Cosponsors](#) (None)

**Latest Major Action:** 3/21/2013 House committee/subcommittee actions. Status: Subcommittee Hearings Held.

**SUMMARY AS OF:** Sikes Act Reauthorization Act of 2013 - Reauthorizes title I of the Sikes Act (conservation programs on military installations) for FY2015-FY2019.

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## [H.R.1080](#)

**Latest Title:** To amend the Sikes Act to promote the use of cooperative agreements under such Act for land management related to Department of Defense readiness activities and to amend title 10, United States Code, to facilitate interagency cooperation in conservation programs to avoid or reduce adverse impacts on military readiness activities.

**Sponsor:** [Rep Bordallo, Madeleine Z.](#) [GU] (introduced 3/12/2013)      [Cosponsors](#) (None)

**Latest Major Action:** 3/26/2013 Referred to House subcommittee. Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Readiness.

**SUMMARY:** Amends the Sikes Act (conservation programs on federal lands) to allow funds appropriated to the Department of Defense (DOD) to be obligated for future costs of natural resource maintenance and improvement activities on military installations and state-owned National Guard installations.

Allows the recipient of funds provided by the Secretary of Defense or the Secretary of the military department concerned under a natural resources cooperative agreement to use such funds to satisfy any matching funds or cost-sharing requirement of the Departments of Agriculture (USDA) or the Interior.

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## [H.R.1137](#)

**Latest Title:** Joint Ventures for Bird Habitat Conservation Act of 2013

**Sponsor:** [Rep Kind, Ron](#) [WI-3] (introduced 3/13/2013)      [Cosponsors](#) (1)

**Latest Major Action:** 3/21/2013 Referred to House subcommittee. Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife, Oceans, and Insular Affairs.

**SUMMARY:** Joint Ventures for Bird Habitat Conservation Act of 2013 - Directs the Secretary of the Interior to conduct, through the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, a Joint Ventures Program to develop a framework for the approval and establishment of Joint Ventures that: (1) provide financial and technical assistance to support regional migratory bird conservation partnerships, (2) develop and implement plans for the protection and enhancement of migratory bird populations, (3) complement and support activities by the Secretary and the Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to fulfill obligations under specified migratory bird and conservation Acts, and (4) support other specified goals and objectives.

Authorizes the Director to enter into agreements with eligible partners to establish Joint Ventures to: (1) promote sustainable migratory bird populations and fish and wildlife, (2) encourage stakeholder and government partnerships, and (3) establish science-based migratory bird conservation plans and promote broader landscape-level conservation of fish and wildlife habitat. Specifies that eligible partners include: (1) federal and state agencies; (2) affected regional, local, and tribal governments, private landowners, land managers, and other private stakeholders; (3) certain nongovernmental organizations; and (4) other relevant stakeholders. Authorizes the Director to award Joint Venture financial assistance grants.

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## [H.R.1206](#)

**Latest Title:** Permanent Electronic Duck Stamp Act of 2013

**Sponsor:** [Rep Wittman, Robert J.](#) [VA-1] (introduced 3/14/2013)      [Cosponsors](#) (1)

**Related Bills:** [S.738](#)

**Latest Major Action:** 4/24/2013 House committee/subcommittee actions. Status: Ordered to be Reported by Unanimous Consent.



**SUMMARY:** Permanent Electronic Duck Stamp Act of 2013 - Grants the Secretary of the Interior permanent authority to authorize any state to issue electronic duck stamps. Sets forth state electronic duck stamp application requirements.

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## [H.R.1345](#)

**Latest Title:** Catastrophic Wildfire Prevention Act of 2013

**Sponsor:** [Rep Gosar, Paul A.](#) [AZ-4] (introduced 3/21/2013) [Cosponsors](#) (16)

**Latest Major Action:** 4/23/2013 Referred to House subcommittee. Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Conservation, Energy, and Forestry.

**SUMMARY:** Catastrophic Wildfire Prevention Act of 2013 - Extends through FY2023 the authority for the Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to enter into stewardship end result contracting projects with private persons or other public or private entities to perform services to achieve land management goals for national forests and public lands that meet local and rural community needs.

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## [H.R.1348](#)

**Latest Title:** Great Bend of the Gila National Monument Establishment Act

**Sponsor:** [Rep Grijalva, Raul M.](#) [AZ-3] (introduced 3/21/2013) [Cosponsors](#) (None)

**Latest Major Action:** 4/11/2013 Referred to House subcommittee. Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Public Lands and Environmental Regulation.

**SUMMARY:** Great Bend of the Gila National Monument Establishment Act - Establishes the Great Bend of the Gila National Monument in Arizona.

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## [H.R.1350](#)

**Latest Title:** Grand Canyon Watersheds Protection Act of 2013

**Sponsor:** [Rep Grijalva, Raul M.](#) [AZ-3] (introduced 3/21/2013) [Cosponsors](#) (14)

**Latest Major Action:** 3/28/2013 Referred to House subcommittee. Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources.

Summary Pending

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## [H.R.1495](#)

**Latest Title:** Arizona Land Sovereignty Act

**Sponsor:** [Rep Gosar, Paul A.](#) [AZ-4] (introduced 4/11/2013) [Cosponsors](#) (3)

**Related Bills:** [H.R.1434](#), [H.R.1439](#), [H.R.1512](#)

**Latest Major Action:** 4/19/2013 Referred to House subcommittee. Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Public Lands and Environmental Regulation.

**SUMMARY:** Arizona Land Sovereignty Act - Prohibits any further extension or establishment of national parks and monuments in Arizona, except by express authorization of Congress.

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## [H.R.1799](#)

**Latest Title:** To designate certain public lands in the Sonoran Desert of the State of Arizona

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as national conservation areas and wilderness areas, and for other purposes.

**Sponsor:** [Rep Grijalva, Raul M.](#) [AZ-3] (introduced 4/26/2013)    [Cosponsors](#) (None)

**Latest Major Action:** 4/26/2013 Referred to House committee. Status: Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.

Summary pending

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## **S.51**

**Latest Title:** National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Reauthorization Act of 2013

**Sponsor:** [Sen Boxer, Barbara](#) [CA] (introduced 1/22/2013)    [Cosponsors](#) (10)

**Related Bills:** [H.R.263](#)

**Latest Major Action:** 1/22/2013 Referred to Senate committee. Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

**Summary:** Reauthorizes and revises the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Establishment Act.

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## **S.89**

**Latest Title:** Migratory Bird Treaty Amendment Act of 2013

**Sponsor:** [Sen Vitter, David](#) [LA] (introduced 1/23/2013)    [Cosponsors](#) (None)

**Latest Major Action:** 1/23/2013 Referred to Senate committee. Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

**Summary:** Amends the Migratory Bird Treaty Act to allow an agricultural producer, or a hunter with the producer's permission, to take migratory game birds by the aid of baiting, if: (1) the manipulation occurs on the producer's land on which a crop was not harvestable during the current or immediately preceding crop year due to a natural disaster, and (2) a local representative of the Secretary of Agriculture (USDA) confirms that the crop has been destroyed and that it would not be economically practicable to harvest the crop.

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## **S.170**

**Latest Title:** Recreational Fishing and Hunting Heritage and Opportunities Act

**Sponsor:** [Sen Murkowski, Lisa](#) [AK] (introduced 1/29/2013)    [Cosponsors](#) (2)

**Latest Major Action:** 1/29/2013 Referred to Senate committee. Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

**Summary:** To recognize the heritage of recreational fishing, hunting, and recreational shooting on Federal public land and ensure continued opportunities for those activities.

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## **S.279**

**Latest Title:** A bill to promote the development of renewable energy on public land, and for other purposes.

**Sponsor:** [Sen Tester, Jon](#) [MT] (introduced 2/11/2013)    [Cosponsors](#) (7)

**Similar Bills:** HR

**Latest Major Action:** 2/11/2013 Referred to Senate committee. Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

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**Summary:** Provides wildlife mitigation revenues from the lease of public lands for renewable energy.

## [S.339](#)

**Latest Title:** Southeast Arizona Land Exchange and Conservation Act of 2013

**Sponsor:** [Sen McCain, John](#) [AZ] (introduced 2/14/2013) [Cosponsors](#) (1)

**Related Bills:** [H.R.687](#)

**Latest Major Action:** 2/14/2013 Referred to Senate committee. Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

**SUMMARY:** Southeast Arizona Land Exchange and Conservation Act of 2013 - Authorizes and directs the Secretary of Agriculture (USDA) (the Secretary), if Resolution Copper Mining, LLC offers to convey specified parcels of non-federal land in Gila, Yavapi, Maricopa, Coconino, Pinal, and/or Santa Cruz Counties, Arizona, that are acceptable to the Secretary or the Secretary of the Interior, to convey certain federal land in Pinal County, Arizona, to Resolution Copper.

## [S.338](#)

**Latest Title:** Land and Water Conservation Authorization and Funding Act of 2013

**Sponsor:** [Sen Baucus, Max](#) [MT] (introduced 2/14/2013) [Cosponsors](#) (29)

**Latest Major Action:** 2/14/2013 Referred to Senate committee. Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

**SUMMARY:** Land and Water Conservation Authorization and Funding Act of 2013 - Amends the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965 to make permanent the authorization for the Land and Water Conservation Fund. Makes monies covered into the Fund available for expenditure to carry out the purposes of the Act without further appropriation. Requires not less than 1.5% of the annual authorized funding amount to be made available for projects that secure recreational public access to existing federal public land for **hunting**, fishing, and other recreational purposes.

## [S.738](#)

**Latest Title:** Permanent Electronic Duck Stamp Act of 2013

**Sponsor:** [Sen Wicker, Roger F.](#) [MS] (introduced 4/16/2013) [Cosponsors](#) (3)

**Related Bills:** [H.R.1206](#)

**Latest Major Action:** 4/16/2013 Referred to Senate committee. Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

**SUMMARY:** Permanent Electronic Duck Stamp Act of 2013 - Grants the Secretary of the Interior permanent authority to authorize any state to issue electronic duck stamps. Sets forth state electronic duck stamp application requirements.

## **Firearm Legislation**

### [H.R.65](#)

**Latest Title:** Child Gun Safety and Gun Access Prevention Act of 2013

**Sponsor:** [Rep Jackson Lee, Sheila](#) [TX-18] (introduced 1/3/2013) [Cosponsors](#) (None)



**Latest Major Action:** 1/25/2013 Referred to House subcommittee. Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, And Investigations.

**Summary:** Amends the Brady Handgun Violence Prevention Act to: (1) raise the age of handgun eligibility to 21 (currently, 18); and (2) prohibit persons under age 21 from possessing semiautomatic assault weapons or large capacity ammunition feeding devices, with exceptions.

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## **H.R.226**

**Latest Title:** Support Assault Firearms Elimination and Reduction for our Streets Act

**Sponsor:** [Rep DeLauro, Rosa L.](#) [CT-3] (introduced 1/14/2013) [Cosponsors](#) (7)

**Latest Major Action:** 1/14/2013 Referred to House committee. Status: Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means.

**Summary:** To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a credit against tax for surrendering to authorities certain assault weapons.

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## **H.R.437**

**Latest Title:** Assault Weapons Ban of 2013

**Sponsor:** [Rep McCarthy, Carolyn](#) [NY-4] (introduced 1/29/2013) [Cosponsors](#) (58)

**Related Bills:** [S.150](#)

**Latest Major Action:** 1/29/2013 Referred to House committee. Status: Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary.

**Summary:** Amends the federal criminal code to ban the import, sale, manufacture, transfer, or possession of a semiautomatic assault weapon

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## **S.150**

**Latest Title:** Assault Weapons Ban of 2013

**Sponsor:** [Sen Feinstein, Dianne](#) [CA] (introduced 1/24/2013) [Cosponsors](#) (23)

**Related Bills:** [H.R.437](#), [S.691](#)

**Latest Major Action:** 3/14/2013 Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 27. **Failed to reach Cloture**

**Summary:** Makes various changes to gun laws by adding assault weapons and magazines over 10 rounds to banned items.

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## **S.649**

**Latest Title:** Safe Communities, Safe Schools Act of 2013

**Sponsor:** [Sen Reid, Harry](#) [NV] (introduced 3/21/2013) [Cosponsors](#) (1)

**Related Bills:** [H.R.359](#), [H.R.955](#), [H.R.1470](#), [S.54](#), [S.146](#), [S.374](#), [S.433](#), [S.443](#)

**Latest Major Action:** 4/18/2013 Senate floor actions. Status: **Considered by Senate.**

**SUMMARY:** Safe Communities, Safe Schools Act of 2013 - Amends the NICS Improvement Amendments Act of 2007 (NICS Act), the Brady Handgun Violence Prevention Act (Brady Act), the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968, and the federal criminal code to require background checks for all firearm sales, prohibit straw purchases of firearms, and expand the school safety grant program.



**AGFD Government Affairs**  
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