

Union Calendar No. 184

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3154

[Report No. 114-243]

To allow manufacturers to meet warranty and labeling requirements for consumer products by displaying the terms of warranties on Internet websites, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 22, 2015

Mr. MULLIN (for himself and Mr. LOEBSACK) introduced the following bill;
which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

SEPTEMBER 8, 2015

Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union
and ordered to be printed

A BILL

To allow manufacturers to meet warranty and labeling requirements for consumer products by displaying the terms of warranties on Internet websites, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “E-Warranty Act of
5 2015”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress makes the following findings:

8 (1) Many manufacturers and consumers prefer
9 to have the option to provide or receive warranty in-
10 formation online.

11 (2) Modernizing warranty notification rules is
12 necessary to allow the United States to continue to
13 compete globally in manufacturing, trade, and the
14 development of consumer products connected to the
15 Internet.

16 (3) Allowing an electronic warranty option
17 would expand consumer access to relevant consumer
18 information in an environmentally friendly way, and
19 would provide additional flexibility to manufacturers
20 to meet their labeling and warranty requirements.

21 **SEC. 3. ELECTRONIC DISPLAY OF TERMS OF WRITTEN WAR-**
22 **RANTY FOR CONSUMER PRODUCTS.**

23 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 102(b) of the Magnuson-
24 Moss Warranty—Federal Trade Commission Improve-

1 ment Act (15 U.S.C. 2302(b)) is amended by adding at
2 the end the following:

3 “(4)(A) Except as provided in subparagraph (B), the
4 rules prescribed under this subsection shall allow for the
5 satisfaction of all requirements concerning the availability
6 of terms of a written warranty on a consumer product
7 under this subsection by—

8 “(i) making available such terms in an acces-
9 sible digital format on the Internet website of the
10 manufacturer of the consumer product in a clear
11 and conspicuous manner; and

12 “(ii) providing to the consumer (or prospective
13 consumer) information with respect to how to obtain
14 and review such terms by indicating on the product
15 or product packaging or in the product manual—

16 “(I) the Internet website of the manufac-
17 turer where such terms can be obtained and re-
18 viewed; and

19 “(II) the phone number of the manufac-
20 turer, the postal mailing address of the manu-
21 facturer, or another reasonable non-Internet
22 based means of contacting the manufacturer to
23 obtain and review such terms.

24 “(B) With respect to any requirement that the terms
25 of any written warranty for a consumer product be made

1 available to the consumer (or prospective consumer) prior
2 to sale of the product, in a case in which a consumer prod-
3 uct is offered for sale in a retail location, by catalog, or
4 through door-to-door sales, subparagraph (A) shall only
5 apply if the seller makes available, through electronic or
6 other means, at the location of the sale to the consumer
7 purchasing the consumer product the terms of the war-
8 ranty for the consumer product before the purchase.”.

9 (b) REVISION OF RULES.—

10 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after
11 the date of the enactment of this Act, the Federal
12 Trade Commission shall revise the rules prescribed
13 under such section to comply with the requirements
14 of paragraph (4) of such section, as added by sub-
15 section (a) of this section.

16 (2) AUTHORITY TO WAIVE REQUIREMENT FOR
17 ORAL PRESENTATION.—In revising rules under para-
18 graph (1), the Federal Trade Commission may waive
19 the requirement of section 109(a) of such Act (15
20 U.S.C. 2309(a)) to give interested persons an oppor-
21 tunity for oral presentation if the Commission deter-
22 mines that giving interested persons such oppor-
23 tunity would interfere with the ability of the Com-
24 mission to revise rules under paragraph (1) in a
25 timely manner.

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