To prohibit the purchase, ownership, or possession of enhanced body armor by civilians, with exceptions.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 14, 2015

Mr. HONDA (for himself, Mr. HASTINGS, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, and Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To prohibit the purchase, ownership, or possession of enhanced body armor by civilians, with exceptions.

1 Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-
2 tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,
3
4 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.
5 This Act may be cited as the “Responsible Body
6 Armor Possession Act”. 
SEC. 2. BAN ON PURCHASE, OWNERSHIP, OR POSSESSION OF ENHANCED BODY ARMOR BY CIVILIANS;
EXCEPTIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 44 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“§ 932. Ban on purchase, ownership, or possession of enhanced body armor by civilians

“(a) Except as provided in subsection (b), it shall be unlawful for a person to purchase, own, or possess enhanced body armor.

“(b) Subsection (a) shall not apply to—

“(1) a purchase, ownership, or possession by or under the authority of—

“(A) the United States or any department or agency of the United States; or

“(B) a State, or a department, agency, or political subdivision of a State; or

“(2) enhanced body armor that was lawfully possessed by any person at any time before the date this section takes effect.”.

(b) ENHANCED BODY ARMOR DEFINED.—Section 921(a) of such title is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(36) The term ‘enhanced body armor’ means body armor, including a helmet or shield, the ballistic resistance
of which meets or exceeds the ballistic performance of Type III armor, determined using National Institute of Justice Standard–0101.06.”.

(c) PENALTIES.—Section 924(a) of such title is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(8) Whoever knowingly violates section 932 shall be fined under this title, imprisoned not more than 10 years, or both.”.