

## S 1543

### Supporting Military Families Act of 2009

**Congress:** 111 (2009–2011, Ended)

**Chamber:** Senate

**Policy Area:** Armed Forces and National Security

**Introduced:** Jul 30, 2009

**Current Status:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

**Latest Action:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions. (Jul 30, 2009)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/111th-congress/senate-bill/1543>

## Sponsor

**Name:** Sen. Dodd, Christopher J. [D-CT]

**Party:** Democratic • **State:** CT • **Chamber:** Senate

## Cosponsors (4 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Kennedy, Edward M. [D-MA]	D · MA		Jul 30, 2009
Sen. Lieberman, Joseph I. [ID-CT]	ID · CT		Jul 30, 2009
Sen. Murray, Patty [D-WA]	D · WA		Jul 30, 2009
Sen. Chambliss, Saxby [R-GA]	R · GA		Aug 3, 2009

## Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee	Senate	Referred To	Jul 30, 2009

## Subjects & Policy Tags

### Policy Area:

Armed Forces and National Security

## Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
111 HR 3403	Identical bill	Oct 22, 2009: Referred to the Subcommittee on Workforce Protections.

Supporting Military Families Act of 2009 - Amends the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 to revise its requirements for exigency leave with respect to employees belonging to the family of members of the Armed Forces, particularly the requirement that an employee's spouse, son, daughter, or parent be on active duty in the Armed Forces in support of a contingency operation. Repeals the condition "in support of a contingency operation," and requires only that the Armed Forces member be on duty during deployment to a foreign country.

Entitles to coverage by the Act an eligible employee who is a family member caring for a veteran undergoing medical treatment, recuperation, or therapy for a serious injury or illness who was a member of the Armed Forces (or of the National Guard or Reserves) at any time during the five-year period preceding the date on which the veteran undergoes that treatment, recuperation, or therapy.

Defines a veteran's serious injury or illness of a veteran to be one: (1) incurred by the veteran as an Armed Forces member in the line of duty while on active duty in the Armed Forces, or which existed before the beginning of the member's active duty but was aggravated by service in line of duty on active duty in the Armed Forces; and (2) that manifested itself before or after the Armed Forces member became a veteran.

Amends federal civil service law to entitle civilian federal employees to the same leave allowance with respect to family members who are: (1) members of the Armed Forces in deployment to a foreign country; or (2) ill or injured veterans for whom they are caring.

## **Actions Timeline**

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- **Jul 30, 2009:** Introduced in Senate
- **Jul 30, 2009:** Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR S8561-8562)
- **Jul 30, 2009:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.