

S 1556

Veteran Voting Support Act of 2009

Congress: 111 (2009–2011, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Armed Forces and National Security

Introduced: Aug 3, 2009

Current Status: Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Hearings held. Hearings printed: S.Hrg. 111-264.

Latest Action: Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Hearings held. Hearings printed: S.Hrg. 111-264. (Oct 21, 2009)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/111th-congress/senate-bill/1556>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Feinstein, Dianne [D-CA]

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

Cosponsors (6 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Dodd, Christopher J. [D-CT]	D · CT		Aug 3, 2009
Sen. Kerry, John F. [D-MA]	D · MA		Aug 3, 2009
Sen. Leahy, Patrick J. [D-VT]	D · VT		Aug 3, 2009
Sen. Mikulski, Barbara A. [D-MD]	D · MD		Aug 3, 2009
Sen. Boxer, Barbara [D-CA]	D · CA		Sep 21, 2009
Sen. Gillibrand, Kirsten E. [D-NY]	D · NY		Oct 28, 2009

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Veterans' Affairs Committee	Senate	Hearings By (full committee)	Oct 21, 2009

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Armed Forces and National Security

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Veteran Voting Support Act of 2009 - Directs the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide mail voter registration application forms to each veteran who: (1) seeks to enroll in the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) health care system at the time of such enrollment; and (2) is already enrolled in such system when there is a change in the veteran's enrollment status or when there is a change in the veteran's address.

Requires the Secretary to accept completed application forms for transmittal to appropriate state election officials. Instructs that forms accepted at VA medical centers, community living centers, community-based outpatient centers, and domiciliaries be transmitted within ten days of acceptance, unless a completed form is accepted within five days before the last day for registration to vote in an election in which case the application shall be transmitted to the appropriate state election official within five days of acceptance.

Prohibits any information relating to registering to vote or a declination to register to vote under this Act from being used for any purpose other than voter registration.

Requires each Director of a VA community living center, domiciliary, or medical center to provide assistance in voting by absentee ballot to resident veterans. Requires such assistance to include: (1) providing information relating to the opportunity to request an absentee ballot; (2) making available absentee ballot applications upon request, as well as assisting in completing such applications and ballots; and (3) working with local election administration officials to ensure the proper transmission of the applications and ballots.

Directs the Secretary to permit nonpartisan organizations to provide voter registration information and assistance at facilities of the VA health care system.

Prohibits the Secretary from banning any election administration official, whether state or local, party-affiliated or non-party affiliated, or elected or appointed, from providing voting information to veterans at any VA facility.

Directs the Secretary to provide reasonable access to facilities of the VA health care system to state and local election officials for the purpose of providing nonpartisan voter registration services to individuals.

Actions Timeline

- **Oct 21, 2009:** Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Hearings held. Hearings printed: S.Hrg. 111-264.
- **Aug 3, 2009:** Introduced in Senate
- **Aug 3, 2009:** Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR S8683-8684)
- **Aug 3, 2009:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs. (text of measure as introduced: CR S8684-8685)