

## HR 5197

### Defense STRONG Act

**Congress:** 111 (2009–2011, Ended)

**Chamber:** House

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

**Introduced:** May 3, 2010

**Current Status:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Military Personnel.

**Latest Action:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Military Personnel. (May 6, 2010)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/111th-congress/house-bill/5197>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Rep. Tsongas, Niki [D-MA-5]

**Party:** Democratic • **State:** MA • **Chamber:** House

### Cosponsors (21 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Capps, Lois [D-CA-23]	D · CA		May 3, 2010
Rep. Cleaver, Emanuel [D-MO-5]	D · MO		May 3, 2010
Rep. DeLauro, Rosa L. [D-CT-3]	D · CT		May 3, 2010
Rep. Giffords, Gabrielle [D-AZ-8]	D · AZ		May 3, 2010
Rep. Harman, Jane [D-CA-36]	D · CA		May 3, 2010
Rep. McGovern, James P. [D-MA-3]	D · MA		May 3, 2010
Rep. McMorris Rodgers, Cathy [R-WA-5]	R · WA		May 3, 2010
Rep. Shea-Porter, Carol [D-NH-1]	D · NH		May 3, 2010
Rep. Turner, Michael R. [R-OH-3]	R · OH		May 3, 2010
Rep. Walz, Timothy J. [D-MN-1]	D · MN		May 3, 2010
Del. Sablan, Gregorio Kilili Camacho [D-MP-At Large]	D · MP		May 11, 2010
Rep. Hall, John J. [D-NY-19]	D · NY		May 11, 2010
Rep. Holt, Rush [D-NJ-12]	D · NJ		May 11, 2010
Rep. Michaud, Michael H. [D-ME-2]	D · ME		May 11, 2010
Rep. Platts, Todd Russell [R-PA-19]	R · PA		May 11, 2010
Rep. Watson, Diane E. [D-CA-33]	D · CA		May 11, 2010
Rep. Weiner, Anthony D. [D-NY-9]	D · NY		May 11, 2010
Rep. Chu, Judy [D-CA-32]	D · CA		May 27, 2010
Rep. Cohen, Steve [D-TN-9]	D · TN		May 27, 2010
Rep. Fortenberry, Jeff [R-NE-1]	R · NE		Sep 29, 2010
Rep. Matsui, Doris O. [D-CA-5]	D · CA		Sep 29, 2010

### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Armed Services Committee	House	Referred to	May 6, 2010

## Subjects & Policy Tags

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### Policy Area:

Armed Forces and National Security

### Related Bills

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*No related bills are listed.*

### Summary (as of May 3, 2010)

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Defense Sexual Trauma Response Oversight and Good Governance Act (Defense STRONG Act) - Establishes within the Department of Defense (DOD) a Director of the Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Office to serve as the single point of authority, accountability, and oversight for DOD policy regarding prevention of and response to sexual assault, and to provide oversight to ensure that the sexual assault programs of the military departments comply with DOD policy.

Requires the assignment within each military department of at least one full-time Sexual Assault Response Coordinator and one full-time Sexual Assault Victim Advocate, allowing the Secretary of the military department concerned to assign additional coordinators and/or advocates based on the demographics or needs of the unit. Allows only members of the Armed Forces (members) or DOD civilian personnel to be assigned as coordinators or advocates. Directs the Secretary of Defense to establish a professional training and certification program for such coordinators and advocates, and requires performance evaluations of all coordinators and advocates.

Entitles any member, or dependent of a member, who is the victim of a sexual assault to legal assistance provided by a military legal assistance counsel and Victim Advocate service, regardless of whether the member or dependent elects unrestricted or restricted (confidential) reporting of the assault. Makes privileged any communications between a member or dependent and a Victim Advocate.

Directs the Secretary to provide for the inclusion of a sexual assault prevention and response training module at each level of professional military education.

### Actions Timeline

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- **May 6, 2010:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Military Personnel.
- **May 3, 2010:** Introduced in House
- **May 3, 2010:** Referred to the House Committee on Armed Services.