

## HR 840

Military Domestic and Sexual Violence Response Act

**Congress:** 111 (2009–2011, Ended)

**Chamber:** House

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

**Introduced:** Feb 3, 2009

**Current Status:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security.

**Latest Action:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security. (Mar 16, 2009)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/111th-congress/house-bill/840>

### Sponsor

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**Name:** Rep. Slaughter, Louise McIntosh [D-NY-28]

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

**Cosponsors** (64 total)

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Rep. Blumenauer, Earl [D-OR-3]	D · OR		Feb 23, 2009
Rep. Burton, Dan [R-IN-5]	R · IN		Feb 23, 2009
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Rep. Hastings, Alcee L. [D-FL-23]	D · FL		Feb 23, 2009
Rep. Hirono, Mazie K. [D-HI-2]	D · HI		Feb 23, 2009
Rep. Miller, Brad [D-NC-13]	D · NC		Feb 23, 2009
Rep. Smith, Adam [D-WA-9]	D · WA		Feb 23, 2009
Rep. Price, David E. [D-NC-4]	D · NC		Mar 6, 2009
Del. Norton, Eleanor Holmes [D-DC-At Large]	D · DC		Apr 23, 2009
Rep. Moran, James P. [D-VA-8]	D · VA		Apr 23, 2009
Rep. Pastor, Ed [D-AZ-4]	D · AZ		Apr 23, 2009
Rep. Tierney, John F. [D-MA-6]	D · MA		Apr 23, 2009
Rep. Inslee, Jay [D-WA-1]	D · WA		Apr 29, 2009
Rep. Poe, Ted [R-TX-2]	R · TX		Apr 29, 2009
Rep. Shea-Porter, Carol [D-NH-1]	D · NH		Apr 29, 2009
Rep. Grayson, Alan [D-FL-8]	D · FL		Apr 30, 2009
Rep. Kilpatrick, Carolyn C. [D-MI-13]	D · MI		May 4, 2009
Rep. Cohen, Steve [D-TN-9]	D · TN		May 20, 2009
Rep. Schiff, Adam B. [D-CA-29]	D · CA		May 20, 2009
Rep. Woolsey, Lynn C. [D-CA-6]	D · CA		May 20, 2009

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Brown, Corrine [D-FL-3]	D · FL		Jun 3, 2009
Rep. Courtney, Joe [D-CT-2]	D · CT		Jun 3, 2009
Rep. Roybal-Allard, Lucille [D-CA-34]	D · CA		Jun 3, 2009
Rep. Tonko, Paul [D-NY-21]	D · NY		Jun 3, 2009
Rep. Van Hollen, Chris [D-MD-8]	D · MD		Jun 3, 2009
Rep. Weiner, Anthony D. [D-NY-9]	D · NY		Jun 3, 2009
Rep. Yarmuth, John A. [D-KY-3]	D · KY		Jun 3, 2009
Rep. Nadler, Jerrold [D-NY-8]	D · NY		Jun 8, 2009
Rep. Delahunt, Bill [D-MA-10]	D · MA		Jun 9, 2009
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Rep. Kildee, Dale E. [D-MI-5]	D · MI		Jul 22, 2009
Rep. Sestak, Joe [D-PA-7]	D · PA		Oct 6, 2009
Rep. Jackson-Lee, Sheila [D-TX-18]	D · TX		Oct 22, 2009
Rep. Heinrich, Martin [D-NM-1]	D · NM		Oct 29, 2009
Rep. Lofgren, Zoe [D-CA-16]	D · CA		Dec 1, 2009
Rep. Markey, Edward J. [D-MA-7]	D · MA		Jan 27, 2010
Rep. Chu, Judy [D-CA-32]	D · CA		Feb 22, 2010
Rep. Welch, Peter [D-VT-At Large]	D · VT		Feb 25, 2010
Rep. Adler, John H. [D-NJ-3]	D · NJ		Jun 24, 2010
Rep. Rothman, Steven R. [D-NJ-9]	D · NJ		Jun 24, 2010
Rep. Ackerman, Gary L. [D-NY-5]	D · NY		Jun 30, 2010
Rep. Filner, Bob [D-CA-51]	D · CA		Jul 15, 2010

## Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Armed Services Committee	House	Referred to	Feb 24, 2009
Judiciary Committee	House	Referred to	Mar 16, 2009
Veterans' Affairs Committee	House	Referred to	Feb 6, 2009

## Subjects & Policy Tags

### Policy Area:

Armed Forces and National Security

### Related Bills

*No related bills are listed.*

Military Domestic and Sexual Violence Response Act - Establishes in the Department of Defense (DOD) an Office of the Victims' Advocate to facilitate access to services for victims of domestic or family violence, sexual assault, and stalking in the military. Directs the Secretary of Defense, acting through the Director of the Office, to require DOD policies for victim assistance, family advocacy, and equal opportunity programs to provide for a victims' advocates program within each military department.

Authorizes the Secretary to award contracts to: (1) support DOD crisis intervention services for victims of such violence; and (2) provide training on prevention of such violence.

Prohibits any person from restricting a member of the Armed Forces in communicating with the Office or from taking or withholding a personnel action in retaliation for making such a communication.

Provides for: (1) employment of a sexual assault nurse examiner, a psychiatrist, and a complimentary clinical team at each DOD military treatment facility; and (2) DOD community level programs and shelter services for active duty members and their families who are victims of such violence shelter .

Specifies the rights of victims of such violence reported to a military law enforcement agency.

Directs a military commanding officer who receives a qualifying complaint alleging such violence to investigate it and report.

Specifies circumstances under which military law enforcement officers shall arrest a person for committing domestic violence.

Establishes a Director of Special Investigations in DOD to review investigations of allegations of such violence and refer cases for prosecution.

Amends the Uniform Code of Military Justice to: (1) include as "aggravated assault" and specify penalty limits for an assault involving domestic or family violence; and (2) provide for court-martial punishment of violations of no contact or protective orders.

Authorizes the Secretary to: (1) contract for treatment services for members of the Armed Forces who have committed such violence; and (2) ensure that sex offender treatment providers in the contracted program meet the state licensing or certification standards.

Requires the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to: (1) ensure that Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) primary care providers receive training in the screening and referral of veterans who have suffered military sexual trauma; and (2) conduct related pilot programs.

Prohibits the Secretary of the military department concerned from approving a financial award or a promotion for an officer or employee who has been convicted of or disciplined for committing such violence.

Directs the Secretary to study: (1) the prevalence and nature of such violence, of intimate partner violence, and of child maltreatment, abuse, suicide, and homicide in the Armed Forces; and (2) military procedures after an incident is reported.

## **Actions Timeline**

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- **Mar 16, 2009:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security.
- **Feb 24, 2009:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Military Personnel.
- **Feb 6, 2009:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.
- **Feb 3, 2009:** Introduced in House
- **Feb 3, 2009:** Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR E186)
- **Feb 3, 2009:** Referred to House Armed Services
- **Feb 3, 2009:** Referred to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committees on the Judiciary, and Veterans' Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.
- **Feb 3, 2009:** Referred to House Judiciary
- **Feb 3, 2009:** Referred to House Veterans' Affairs

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