

S 909

Matthew Shepard Hate Crimes Prevention Act

Congress: 111 (2009–2011, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Crime and Law Enforcement

Introduced: Apr 28, 2009

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. (Apr 28, 2009)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/111th-congress/senate-bill/909>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Kennedy, Edward M. [D-MA]

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

Cosponsors (45 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Akaka, Daniel K. [D-HI]	D · HI		Apr 28, 2009
Sen. Bayh, Evan [D-IN]	D · IN		Apr 28, 2009
Sen. Bingaman, Jeff [D-NM]	D · NM		Apr 28, 2009
Sen. Brown, Sherrod [D-OH]	D · OH		Apr 28, 2009
Sen. Cantwell, Maria [D-WA]	D · WA		Apr 28, 2009
Sen. Cardin, Benjamin L. [D-MD]	D · MD		Apr 28, 2009
Sen. Casey, Robert P., Jr. [D-PA]	D · PA		Apr 28, 2009
Sen. Collins, Susan M. [R-ME]	R · ME		Apr 28, 2009
Sen. Dodd, Christopher J. [D-CT]	D · CT		Apr 28, 2009
Sen. Durbin, Richard J. [D-IL]	D · IL		Apr 28, 2009
Sen. Feinstein, Dianne [D-CA]	D · CA		Apr 28, 2009
Sen. Gillibrand, Kirsten E. [D-NY]	D · NY		Apr 28, 2009
Sen. Harkin, Tom [D-IA]	D · IA		Apr 28, 2009
Sen. Johnson, Tim [D-SD]	D · SD		Apr 28, 2009
Sen. Kerry, John F. [D-MA]	D · MA		Apr 28, 2009
Sen. Klobuchar, Amy [D-MN]	D · MN		Apr 28, 2009
Sen. Landrieu, Mary L. [D-LA]	D · LA		Apr 28, 2009
Sen. Lautenberg, Frank R. [D-NJ]	D · NJ		Apr 28, 2009
Sen. Leahy, Patrick J. [D-VT]	D · VT		Apr 28, 2009
Sen. Levin, Carl [D-MI]	D · MI		Apr 28, 2009
Sen. Lieberman, Joseph I. [ID-CT]	ID · CT		Apr 28, 2009
Sen. Merkley, Jeff [D-OR]	D · OR		Apr 28, 2009
Sen. Mikulski, Barbara A. [D-MD]	D · MD		Apr 28, 2009
Sen. Murray, Patty [D-WA]	D · WA		Apr 28, 2009
Sen. Nelson, Ben [D-NE]	D · NE		Apr 28, 2009
Sen. Nelson, Bill [D-FL]	D · FL		Apr 28, 2009
Sen. Reed, Jack [D-RI]	D · RI		Apr 28, 2009
Sen. Schumer, Charles E. [D-NY]	D · NY		Apr 28, 2009
Sen. Shaheen, Jeanne [D-NH]	D · NH		Apr 28, 2009
Sen. Snowe, Olympia J. [R-ME]	R · ME		Apr 28, 2009
Sen. Specter, Arlen [R-PA]	R · PA		Apr 28, 2009
Sen. Udall, Mark [D-CO]	D · CO		Apr 28, 2009
Sen. Whitehouse, Sheldon [D-RI]	D · RI		Apr 28, 2009
Sen. Boxer, Barbara [D-CA]	D · CA		Apr 29, 2009
Sen. Wyden, Ron [D-OR]	D · OR		May 1, 2009
Sen. Menendez, Robert [D-NJ]	D · NJ		May 4, 2009
Sen. Rockefeller, John D., IV [D-WV]	D · WV		May 4, 2009
Sen. Burris, Roland [D-IL]	D · IL		May 5, 2009
Sen. Sanders, Bernard [I-VT]	I · VT		May 5, 2009
Sen. Inouye, Daniel K. [D-HI]	D · HI		May 11, 2009
Sen. McCaskill, Claire [D-MO]	D · MO		May 11, 2009

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Begich, Mark [D-AK]	D · AK		May 18, 2009
Sen. Stabenow, Debbie [D-MI]	D · MI		May 18, 2009
Sen. Kaufman, Edward E. [D-DE]	D · DE		Jun 25, 2009
Sen. Bennet, Michael F. [D-CO]	D · CO		Jul 6, 2009

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Judiciary Committee	Senate	Referred To	Apr 28, 2009

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Crime and Law Enforcement

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
111 HR 1913	Related bill	Apr 30, 2009: Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Summary (as of Apr 28, 2009)

Matthew Shepard Hate Crimes Prevention Act - Adopts the definition of "hate crime" as set forth in the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994 (i.e., a crime in which the defendant intentionally selects a victim or, in the case of a property crime, the property that is the object of the crime because of the actual or perceived race, color, religion, national origin, ethnicity, gender, disability, or sexual orientation of any person).

Authorizes the Attorney General to: (1) provide state, local, or tribal law enforcement agencies with technical, forensic, prosecutorial, or other assistance in the investigation or prosecution of violent crimes and hate crimes; and (2) award grants to assist such agencies with the extraordinary expenses associated with the investigation and prosecution of hate crimes.

Authorizes the Office of Justice Programs to award grants to state, local, or tribal programs designed to combat hate crimes committed by juveniles.

Authorizes appropriations to the Department of Justice (DOJ), including the Community Relations Service, for FY2010-FY2012 to prevent and respond to hate crime acts.

Amends the federal criminal code to prohibit willfully causing bodily injury to any person because of the actual or perceived race, color, religion, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, or disability of such person.

Amends the Hate Crimes Statistics Act to expand data collection and reporting requirements under such Act to include: (1) crimes manifesting prejudice based on gender and gender identity; and (2) hate crimes committed by and against juveniles.

Declares that nothing in this Act shall be construed to prohibit the exercise of constitutionally-protected free speech.

Actions Timeline

- **Apr 28, 2009:** Introduced in Senate
- **Apr 28, 2009:** Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR S4808-4810)
- **Apr 28, 2009:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.