

S 3233

Servicemembers Access to Justice Act of 2012

Congress: 112 (2011–2013, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Armed Forces and National Security

Introduced: May 23, 2012

Current Status: Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Hearings held. Hearings printed: S.Hrg. 112-567.

Latest Action: Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Hearings held. Hearings printed: S.Hrg. 112-567. (Jun 13, 2012)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/112th-congress/senate-bill/3233>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Casey, Robert P., Jr. [D-PA]

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

Cosponsors (2 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Wyden, Ron [D-OR]	D · OR		May 23, 2012
Sen. Begich, Mark [D-AK]	D · AK		Jun 20, 2012

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Veterans' Affairs Committee	Senate	Hearings By (full committee)	Jun 13, 2012

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Armed Forces and National Security

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
112 HR 6015	Identical bill	Jul 19, 2012: Referred to the Subcommittee on Military Personnel.

Servicemembers Access to Justice Act of 2012 - Waives a state's sovereign immunity with respect to the enforcement of uniformed services members' employment or reemployment rights or benefits under the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act of 1994 (USERRA).

Makes unenforceable agreements between an employer and employee requiring arbitration of disputes arising under USERRA. Provides exceptions. Requires the validity and enforceability of such an agreement to be determined by a court (as opposed to the arbitrator).

Provides increased liquidated damages, and authorizes punitive damages, against state or private employer violations of USERRA. Provides a right to a jury trial in such cases.

Requires (under current law, authorizes) the award of attorney fees in actions to enforce USERRA.

Requires (under current law, authorizes) a court to use equitable relief, including injunctions and restraining orders when appropriate, for USERRA violations.

Requires federal procurement contracts to include a notice that the contractor may have USERRA obligations.

Requires a Comptroller General study on the effectiveness of federal education and outreach programs on employer obligations under USERRA.

Actions Timeline

- **Jun 13, 2012:** Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Hearings held. Hearings printed: S.Hrg. 112-567.
- **May 23, 2012:** Introduced in Senate
- **May 23, 2012:** Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR S3518-3519)
- **May 23, 2012:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.