

HR 6015

Servicemembers Access to Justice Act of 2012

Congress: 112 (2011–2013, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Armed Forces and National Security

Introduced: Jun 21, 2012

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Military Personnel.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Military Personnel. (Jul 19, 2012)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/112th-congress/house-bill/6015>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Schwartz, Allyson Y. [D-PA-13]

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

Cosponsors (23 total)

| Cosponsor | Party / State | Role | Date Joined |
|---|---------------|------|--------------|
| Del. Bordallo, Madeleine Z. [D-GU-At Large] | D · GU | | Jun 21, 2012 |
| Rep. Brady, Robert A. [D-PA-1] | D · PA | | Jun 21, 2012 |
| Rep. Connolly, Gerald E. [D-VA-11] | D · VA | | Jun 21, 2012 |
| Rep. Critz, Mark S. [D-PA-12] | D · PA | | Jun 21, 2012 |
| Rep. Doyle, Michael F. [D-PA-14] | D · PA | | Jun 21, 2012 |
| Rep. Holden, Tim [D-PA-17] | D · PA | | Jun 21, 2012 |
| Rep. Cohen, Steve [D-TN-9] | D · TN | | Jun 26, 2012 |
| Rep. Fattah, Chaka [D-PA-2] | D · PA | | Jun 26, 2012 |
| Rep. Slaughter, Louise McIntosh [D-NY-28] | D · NY | | Jun 26, 2012 |
| Rep. Bass, Karen [D-CA-33] | D · CA | | Sep 19, 2012 |
| Rep. Bonamici, Suzanne [D-OR-1] | D · OR | | Sep 19, 2012 |
| Rep. Braley, Bruce L. [D-IA-1] | D · IA | | Sep 19, 2012 |
| Rep. Courtney, Joe [D-CT-2] | D · CT | | Sep 19, 2012 |
| Rep. Hastings, Alcee L. [D-FL-23] | D · FL | | Sep 19, 2012 |
| Rep. Lee, Barbara [D-CA-9] | D · CA | | Sep 19, 2012 |
| Rep. Peters, Gary C. [D-MI-9] | D · MI | | Sep 19, 2012 |
| Rep. Rangel, Charles B. [D-NY-15] | D · NY | | Sep 19, 2012 |
| Rep. Shuler, Heath [D-NC-11] | D · NC | | Sep 19, 2012 |
| Rep. Smith, Adam [D-WA-9] | D · WA | | Sep 19, 2012 |
| Rep. Thompson, Mike [D-CA-1] | D · CA | | Sep 19, 2012 |
| Rep. DeLauro, Rosa L. [D-CT-3] | D · CT | | Sep 21, 2012 |
| Rep. Holt, Rush [D-NJ-12] | D · NJ | | Sep 21, 2012 |
| Rep. Yarmuth, John A. [D-KY-3] | D · KY | | Nov 14, 2012 |

Committee Activity

| Committee | Chamber | Activity | Date |
|---|---------|-------------|--------------|
| Armed Services Committee | House | Referred to | Jul 19, 2012 |
| Oversight and Government Reform Committee | House | Referred To | Jun 21, 2012 |
| Veterans' Affairs Committee | House | Referred to | Jul 6, 2012 |

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Armed Forces and National Security

Related Bills

| Bill | Relationship | Last Action |
|------------|----------------|--|
| 112 S 3233 | Identical bill | Jun 13, 2012: Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Hearings held. Hearings printed: S.Hrg. 112-567. |

Summary (as of Jun 21, 2012)

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

- **Jul 19, 2012:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Military Personnel.
- **Jul 6, 2012:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity.
- **Jun 21, 2012:** Introduced in House
- **Jun 21, 2012:** Referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, and in addition to the Committees on Armed Services, and Oversight and Government Reform, 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.