

## 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	<b>Jun 13, 2012:</b> 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.