

## HR 6628

### SAFER Act of 2012

**Congress:** 112 (2011–2013, Ended)

**Chamber:** House

**Policy Area:** Crime and Law Enforcement

**Introduced:** Dec 4, 2012

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

**Latest Action:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security. (Dec 7, 2012)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/112th-congress/house-bill/6628>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Rep. Poe, Ted [R-TX-2]

**Party:** Republican • **State:** TX • **Chamber:** House

### Cosponsors (4 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Maloney, Carolyn B. [D-NY-14]	D · NY		Dec 4, 2012
Rep. Costa, Jim [D-CA-20]	D · CA		Dec 11, 2012
Rep. Michaud, Michael H. [D-ME-2]	D · ME		Dec 11, 2012
Rep. Keating, William R. [D-MA-10]	D · MA		Dec 12, 2012

### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Judiciary Committee	House	Referred to	Dec 7, 2012

### Subjects & Policy Tags

#### Policy Area:

Crime and Law Enforcement

### Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
112 S 3250	Related bill	Jan 2, 2013: Message on House action received in Senate and at desk: House amendments to Senate bill.
112 S 2338	Related bill	Apr 24, 2012: Read the second time. Ordered Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 364.
112 HR 1523	Related bill	Jul 11, 2011: Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security.

Sexual Assault Forensic Evidence Registry Act of 2012 or the SAFER Act of 2012 - Amends the DNA Analysis Backlog Elimination Act of 2000 to authorize the Attorney General to make Debbie Smith grants under such Act to states or local governments to conduct audits of samples of sexual assault evidence that are awaiting testing, provided such government submits an audit plan that includes a good-faith estimate of the number of such samples. Requires between 5% and 10% of Debbie Smith grant funds distributed in FY2014-FY2018 to be awarded for such purpose if sufficient applications to justify such amounts are received by the Attorney General, provided such award doesn't decrease funds for other distribution requirements.

Requires the Attorney General to establish a Sexual Assault Forensic Evidence Registry that: (1) allows state and local governments to enter specified information about samples of sexual assault evidence in their possession that are awaiting testing, and (2) tracks the testing and processing of such samples. Requires such a government: (1) to complete a funded audit and enter such information about the sample into the Registry within one year after receiving a grant under this Act; (2) within 21 days after receiving a sample that was not in such government's possession at the time of the initiation of such audit, to enter information about such sample into the Registry; (3) to update the status of a sample within 30 days after any change; (4) to provide that the chief law enforcement officer of such government is the individual responsible for such government's compliance with registry requirements; and (5) to assign each sample a unique numeric or alphanumeric identifier. Exempts from such Registry-requirements samples that are not considered criminal evidence or that relate to a sexual assault for which the prosecution of each perpetrator is barred by a statute of limitations.

Requires the Attorney General to make publicly available on a website aggregate non-individualized and non-personally identifying data compiled from information required to be entered into the Registry, to allow for comparison of backlog data by state and local governments.

Requires, for each fiscal year through FY2018, not less than: (1) 40% of Debbie Smith grant amounts to be awarded to carry out DNA analyses of samples from crime scenes for inclusion in the Combined DNA Index System, and (2) 75% of grant amounts to be awarded for a combination of that purpose and to increase the capacity of state or local government laboratories to carry out DNA analyses.

## **Actions Timeline**

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- **Dec 7, 2012:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security.
- **Dec 4, 2012:** Introduced in House
- **Dec 4, 2012:** Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary.