

S 153

Mental Health First Aid Act of 2013

Congress: 113 (2013–2015, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Health

Introduced: Jan 24, 2013

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions. (Jan 24, 2013)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/113th-congress/senate-bill/153>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Begich, Mark [D-AK]

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

Cosponsors (18 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Ayotte, Kelly [R-NH]	R · NH		Jan 24, 2013
Sen. Bennet, Michael F. [D-CO]	D · CO		Jan 24, 2013
Sen. Blumenthal, Richard [D-CT]	D · CT		Jan 24, 2013
Sen. Blunt, Roy [R-MO]	R · MO		Jan 24, 2013
Sen. Coons, Christopher A. [D-DE]	D · DE		Jan 24, 2013
Sen. Reed, Jack [D-RI]	D · RI		Jan 24, 2013
Sen. Rubio, Marco [R-FL]	R · FL		Jan 24, 2013
Sen. Shaheen, Jeanne [D-NH]	D · NH		Jan 24, 2013
Sen. Stabenow, Debbie [D-MI]	D · MI		Jan 24, 2013
Sen. Tester, Jon [D-MT]	D · MT		Jan 24, 2013
Sen. Murphy, Christopher [D-CT]	D · CT		Feb 4, 2013
Sen. Udall, Mark [D-CO]	D · CO		Feb 13, 2013
Sen. Hirono, Mazie K. [D-HI]	D · HI		Apr 8, 2013
Sen. Heitkamp, Heidi [D-ND]	D · ND		Jun 17, 2013
Sen. Schumer, Charles E. [D-NY]	D · NY		Jul 31, 2013
Sen. Heller, Dean [R-NV]	R · NV		Sep 19, 2013
Sen. Grassley, Chuck [R-IA]	R · IA		Sep 24, 2013
Sen. Portman, Rob [R-OH]	R · OH		Oct 8, 2013

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee	Senate	Referred To	Jan 24, 2013

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Health

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
113 HR 274	Related bill	Jan 18, 2013: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.

Summary (as of Jan 24, 2013)

Mental Health First Aid Act of 2013 - Amends the Public Health Service Act to require the Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS), acting through the Administrator of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), to award grants to initiate and sustain mental health first aid training programs. Requires such a program to include: (1) core live training courses on the skills, resources, and knowledge necessary to assist individuals in crisis to connect with appropriate local mental health care services; (2) training on mental health resources, including the location of community mental health centers in the state and local community; and (3) training on action plans and protocols for referral to such resources.

States that the Secretary shall determine the categories of individuals to be trained.

Requires such programs to train individuals to accomplish: (1) safe de-escalation of crisis situations, (2) recognition of the signs and symptoms of mental illness, and (3) timely referral to mental health services in the early stages of developing mental disorders.

Requires the Secretary, in awarding grants, to: (1) ensure that grants are equitably distributed among the geographical regions of the United States, and (2) pay particular attention to the mental health training needs of populations and target audiences residing in rural areas.

Actions Timeline

- Jan 24, 2013: Introduced in Senate
- Jan 24, 2013: Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR S291)
- Jan 24, 2013: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.