

HR 1867

BE SAFE Act

Congress: 113 (2013–2015, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Armed Forces and National Security

Introduced: May 8, 2013

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Military Personnel.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Military Personnel. (Jun 20, 2013)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/113th-congress/house-bill/1867>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Turner, Michael R. [R-OH-10]

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

Cosponsors (34 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Tsongas, Niki [D-MA-3]	D · MA		May 8, 2013
Rep. Buchanan, Vern [R-FL-16]	R · FL		May 14, 2013
Rep. Carson, Andre [D-IN-7]	D · IN		May 14, 2013
Rep. Cleaver, Emanuel [D-MO-5]	D · MO		May 14, 2013
Rep. Fitzpatrick, Michael G. [R-PA-8]	R · PA		May 14, 2013
Rep. Kuster, Ann M. [D-NH-2]	D · NH		May 14, 2013
Rep. Lowey, Nita M. [D-NY-17]	D · NY		May 14, 2013
Rep. Rigell, E. Scott [R-VA-2]	R · VA		May 14, 2013
Rep. Schakowsky, Janice D. [D-IL-9]	D · IL		May 14, 2013
Rep. Gabbard, Tulsi [D-HI-2]	D · HI		May 16, 2013
Rep. Gibson, Christopher P. [R-NY-19]	R · NY		May 16, 2013
Rep. Pingree, Chellie [D-ME-1]	D · ME		May 16, 2013
Rep. Pocan, Mark [D-WI-2]	D · WI		May 16, 2013
Rep. Slaughter, Louise McIntosh [D-NY-25]	D · NY		May 16, 2013
Rep. Coffman, Mike [R-CO-6]	R · CO		May 20, 2013
Rep. Johnson, Bill [R-OH-6]	R · OH		May 20, 2013
Rep. LoBiondo, Frank A. [R-NJ-2]	R · NJ		May 20, 2013
Rep. McCollum, Betty [D-MN-4]	D · MN		May 20, 2013
Rep. Miller, Jeff [R-FL-1]	R · FL		May 20, 2013
Rep. Rush, Bobby L. [D-IL-1]	D · IL		May 20, 2013
Rep. Bishop, Timothy H. [D-NY-1]	D · NY		May 21, 2013
Rep. Lamborn, Doug [R-CO-5]	R · CO		May 21, 2013
Rep. Loebsack, David [D-IA-2]	D · IA		May 21, 2013
Rep. Meehan, Patrick [R-PA-7]	R · PA		May 22, 2013
Rep. Bentivolio, Kerry L. [R-MI-11]	R · MI		Jun 11, 2013
Rep. Eshoo, Anna G. [D-CA-18]	D · CA		Jun 11, 2013
Rep. Higgins, Brian [D-NY-26]	D · NY		Jun 11, 2013
Rep. Latham, Tom [R-IA-3]	R · IA		Jun 11, 2013
Rep. Schwartz, Allyson Y. [D-PA-13]	D · PA		Jun 11, 2013
Rep. Tierney, John F. [D-MA-6]	D · MA		Jun 11, 2013
Rep. Joyce, David P. [R-OH-14]	R · OH		Jul 18, 2013
Rep. Keating, William R. [D-MA-9]	D · MA		Jul 18, 2013
Rep. Takano, Mark [D-CA-41]	D · CA		Jul 23, 2013
Rep. Cartwright, Matt [D-PA-17]	D · PA		Jul 24, 2013

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Armed Services Committee	House	Referred to	Jun 20, 2013

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Armed Forces and National Security

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
113 HR 2207	Related bill	Aug 29, 2013: Referred to the Subcommittee on Military Personnel.
113 S 1032	Related bill	May 23, 2013: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Armed Services.

Summary (as of May 8, 2013)

Better Enforcement for Sexual Assault Free Environments Act of 2013 or BE SAFE Act - Amends the Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ) to repeal the authority of a convening authority (the person taking action on the findings of a court-martial) to use discretion to either set aside a finding of guilty or change such finding to a finding of guilty to a lesser included offense (except with respect to a minor offense). Requires a convening authority, when changing a charge with respect to a minor offense, to prepare a written explanation of such action, which shall be made part of the record.

Prohibits a convening authority from reducing a sentence to less than the mandatory minimum sentence, unless to reflect the substantial assistance by the accused in the investigation or prosecution of another person who has committed an offense. Requires a convening authority who disapproves, commutes, or suspends a sentence, in whole or in part, to prepare a detailed written explanation therefor, which shall be made part of the record.

Requires mandatory dismissal or dishonorable discharge of a person found guilty under the UCMJ of rape, sexual assault, forcible sodomy, or an attempt thereof.

Eliminates any statute of limitations with respect to UCMJ actions for sexual assault of a child.

Authorizes the Secretary of the military department concerned to provide guidance for commanders regarding their authority to make determinations, and to take action, regarding whether a member of the Armed Forces (member) serving on active duty who is alleged to have committed a sexual assault or other sex-related offense should be temporarily reassigned or removed from a position of authority or assignment in order to maintain order and discipline within the member's unit.

Directs the Secretary concerned to designate legal counsel (known as a Victims' Counsel) to provide legal assistance to a member or dependent who is the victim of a sex-related offense, whether the allegation is restricted (confidential) or unrestricted. Requires enhanced training for all military and civilian attorneys providing such assistance.

Requires the Secretary of Defense (DOD) to report to the congressional defense committees on: (1) sentencing guidelines and mandatory minimum sentencing provisions under the UCMJ, and (2) the roles of commanders in the administration of military justice and the investigation, prosecution, and adjudication of UCMJ offenses.

Actions Timeline

- **Jun 20, 2013:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Military Personnel.
- **May 8, 2013:** Introduced in House
- **May 8, 2013:** Referred to the House Committee on Armed Services.