

S 2054

Stop Child Abuse in Residential Programs for Teens Act of 2014

Congress: 113 (2013–2015, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Families

Introduced: Feb 27, 2014

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. (Feb 27, 2014)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/113th-congress/senate-bill/2054>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Murphy, Christopher [D-CT]

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

Cosponsors (1 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Harkin, Tom [D-IA]	D · IA		Feb 27, 2014

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee	Senate	Referred To	Feb 27, 2014

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Families

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
113 HR 1981	Related bill	Jul 8, 2013: Referred to the Subcommittee on Early Childhood, Elementary, and Secondary Education.

Stop Child Abuse in Residential Programs for Teens Act of 2014 - Directs the Assistant Secretary for Children and Families of the Department of Health and Human Services to require each location of a covered program to meet specified minimum standards if individually or together with other locations it has an effect on interstate commerce.

Defines "covered program" as one operated by a public or private entity that with respect to one or more children unrelated to the program owner or operator: (1) provides a residential environment; and (2) operates with a focus on serving children with emotional, behavioral, or mental health problems or disorders, or problems with alcohol or substance abuse.

Directs the Assistant Secretary to: (1) implement an ongoing review process for investigating and evaluating reports of child abuse and neglect; (2) establish public websites with information about each covered program, as well as a national toll-free telephone hotline to receive complaints; (3) establish civil penalties for violations of standards; and (4) establish a process to ensure that complaints received by the hotline are promptly reviewed by persons with appropriate expertise.

Requires the Assistant Secretary to refer any violation of such standards to the Attorney General for appropriate action. Authorizes the Attorney General to file such a complaint on his or her own initiative regardless of whether such a referral has been made.

Amends the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act to establish additional eligibility requirements for grants to states to prevent child abuse and neglect at residential programs. Requires such states to develop policies and procedures to prevent child abuse and neglect at covered programs consistent with the standards specified by this Act.

Directs the Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS) to study outcomes for children in both private and public covered programs under this Act encompassing a broad representation of treatment facilities and geographic regions. Directs the Comptroller General (GAO) to study the implementation of this Act and the effectiveness of the covered programs.

Actions Timeline

- **Feb 27, 2014:** Introduced in Senate
- **Feb 27, 2014:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.