

HR 3064

Forensic Science and Standards Act of 2013

Congress: 113 (2013–2015, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Science, Technology, Communications

Introduced: Sep 9, 2013

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

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, and Investigations. (Oct 15, 2013)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/113th-congress/house-bill/3064>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Johnson, Eddie Bernice [D-TX-30]

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

Cosponsors (1 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Veasey, Marc A. [D-TX-33]	D · TX		Sep 9, 2013

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Judiciary Committee	House	Referred to	Oct 15, 2013
Science, Space, and Technology Committee	House	Referred to	Sep 24, 2013

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Science, Technology, Communications

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
113 S 2022	Related bill	Dec 12, 2014: By Senator Rockefeller from Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation filed written report. Report No. 113-320.

Forensic Science and Standards Act of 2013 - Establishes a national forensic science research program to improve, expand, and coordinate federal research in forensic sciences.

Requires the Director of the National Science Foundation (NSF) to enter into an arrangement with the National Academies to develop a report identifying the most critical forensic science disciplines that require further research to strengthen the scientific foundation in those disciplines and making recommendations.

Establishes a National Forensic Science Coordinating Office at the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) to coordinate among federal agencies: (1) the development of a unified federal research strategy to enhance the validity and reliability of forensic science disciplines; (2) the development of a five-year roadmap, updated triennially, for the unified strategy; and (3) any necessary programs, policies, and budgets to support implementation of the roadmap.

Directs NSF to award forensic science basic research grants to improve the foundation and practice of forensic science in the United States, consistent with NSF's mission and the recommendations in the unified strategy.

Requires NSF to: (1) award grants to support one or more forensic science research centers to conduct research consistent with the unified strategy and with NSF's mission, and (2) conduct a comprehensive evaluation of its full portfolio of forensic science research and education grants every four years.

Authorizes a federal department, agency, or office to assist in satisfying the research needs and priorities identified in the unified federal research strategy by using specified prizes and challenges under the Stevenson-Wydler Technology Innovation Act of 1980 or any other federal law.

Requires the NIST to: (1) conduct research supporting the development and dissemination of methods, standards, and technical guidance for forensic science measurements, and (2) identify or coordinate the development of forensic science standards to enhance the validity and reliability of forensic science activities.

Directs NIST to establish a Forensic Science Advisory Committee to provide advice to federal agencies, NIST, and the Department of Justice.

Directs the Attorney General to promote the adoption of the standards developed under this Act.

Actions Timeline

- **Oct 15, 2013:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, and Investigations.
- **Sep 24, 2013:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Research and Technology.
- **Sep 9, 2013:** Introduced in House
- **Sep 9, 2013:** Referred to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, 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.