

HR 5375

Servicemembers Access to Justice Act of 2014

Congress: 113 (2013–2015, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Armed Forces and National Security

Introduced: Jul 31, 2014

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity. (Sep 2, 2014)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/113th-congress/house-bill/5375>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Schwartz, Allyson Y. [D-PA-13]

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

Cosponsors (7 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Bonamici, Suzanne [D-OR-1]	D · OR		Jul 31, 2014
Rep. Brady, Robert A. [D-PA-1]	D · PA		Jul 31, 2014
Rep. Cartwright, Matt [D-PA-17]	D · PA		Jul 31, 2014
Rep. Connolly, Gerald E. [D-VA-11]	D · VA		Jul 31, 2014
Rep. Courtney, Joe [D-CT-2]	D · CT		Jul 31, 2014
Rep. Doyle, Michael F. [D-PA-14]	D · PA		Jul 31, 2014
Rep. Fattah, Chaka [D-PA-2]	D · PA		Jul 31, 2014

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Armed Services Committee	House	Referred To	Jul 31, 2014
Oversight and Government Reform Committee	House	Referred To	Jul 31, 2014
Veterans' Affairs Committee	House	Referred to	Sep 2, 2014

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Armed Forces and National Security

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Servicemembers Access to Justice Act of 2014 - Waives a state's sovereign immunity with respect to the enforcement of uniformed services members' employment or reemployment rights or benefits under the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act of 1994 (USERRA).

Makes unenforceable agreements between an employer and employee requiring arbitration of disputes arising under USERRA. Provides exceptions. Requires the validity and enforceability of such an agreement to be determined by a court (as opposed to the arbitrator).

Provides increased liquidated damages, and authorizes punitive damages, against state or private employer violations of USERRA. Provides a right to a jury trial in such cases.

Requires (under current law, authorizes) the award of attorney fees in actions to enforce USERRA.

Requires (under current law, authorizes) a court to use equitable relief, including injunctions and restraining orders when appropriate, for USERRA violations.

Requires federal procurement contracts to include a notice that the contractor may have USERRA obligations.

Requires a Comptroller General (GAO) study on the effectiveness of federal education and outreach programs on employer obligations under USERRA.

Actions Timeline

- **Sep 2, 2014:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity.
- **Jul 31, 2014:** Introduced in House
- **Jul 31, 2014:** Referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, and in addition to the Committees on Armed Services, and Oversight and Government Reform, 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.