

HR 5519

Billy's Law

Congress: 113 (2013–2015, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Crime and Law Enforcement

Introduced: Sep 17, 2014

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 28, 2014)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/113th-congress/house-bill/5519>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Poe, Ted [R-TX-2]

Party: Republican • State: TX • Chamber: House

Cosponsors (1 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Esty, Elizabeth H. [D-CT-5]	D · CT		Sep 17, 2014

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Judiciary Committee	House	Referred to	Oct 28, 2014

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Crime and Law Enforcement

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
113 S 2840	Identical bill	Sep 17, 2014: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Billy's Law or the Help Find the Missing Act - Authorizes the Attorney General, through the Director of the National Institute of Justice, to maintain public databases containing missing persons records and unidentified remains cases, to be known as the National Missing and Unidentified Persons System or NamUs, for purposes of assisting in identifying missing people and solving cases of unidentified human remains. Transfers all functions, personnel, assets, liabilities, and actions applicable to such System before enactment of this Act to such System as authorized by this Act. Authorizes appropriations for such System for FY2015-FY2020.

Directs the Comptroller General (GAO) to conduct a study on: (1) how to better integrate the national missing persons databases, including the NamUs databases and the NCIC database; (2) any technical challenges for integrating such databases; and (3) practices, procedures, or technologies that would assist states, local law enforcement agencies, medical examiners, and coroners in reporting missing persons and unidentified remains to the NamUs databases and the NCIC database.

Requires the Attorney General to: (1) provide for information on missing persons and unidentified human remains contained in the NCIC database to be transmitted to, entered in, and shared with the NamUs databases and vice versa; (2) promulgate rules that specify the information the Attorney General may provide from the NCIC files to the NamUs databases while protecting confidential information; and (3) update the online data entry format for the NCIC database and the NamUs databases to provide state criminal justice agencies, medical examiners, and coroners with the option to authorize the submission of new data that is reported to and entered into the NCIC database to the NamUs databases.

Amends the Crime Control Act of 1990 to require the updating and reporting of missing children information to the NamUs databases.

Directs the Attorney General to: (1) establish a program to provide grants to qualifying law enforcement agencies, coroners, medical examiners, and other authorized agencies to facilitate reporting information regarding missing persons and unidentified remains to the NCIC database and the NamUs databases; and (2) issue a report to medical examiners, coroners, and law enforcement agencies describing the best practices for the collection, reporting, and analysis of such information.

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## **Actions Timeline**

- **Oct 28, 2014:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, and Investigations.
- **Sep 17, 2014:** Introduced in House
- **Sep 17, 2014:** Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary.