

HR 1656

Secret Service Improvements Act of 2016

Congress: 114 (2015–2017, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Crime and Law Enforcement

Introduced: Mar 26, 2015

Current Status: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 560.

Latest Action: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 560. (Jul 13, 2016)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/house-bill/1656>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Goodlatte, Bob [R-VA-6]

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

Cosponsors (4 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Conyers, John, Jr. [D-MI-13]	D · MI		Mar 26, 2015
Rep. Jackson Lee, Sheila [D-TX-18]	D · TX		Mar 26, 2015
Rep. McCaul, Michael T. [R-TX-10]	R · TX		Mar 26, 2015
Rep. Sensenbrenner, F. James, Jr. [R-WI-5]	R · WI		Mar 26, 2015

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee	Senate	Reported By	Jul 13, 2016
Judiciary Committee	House	Discharged from	Jul 14, 2015

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Crime and Law Enforcement

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Secret Service Improvements Act of 2016

(Sec. 2) This bill amends the federal criminal code to prohibit knowingly causing an autonomous or remotely operated vehicle or dangerous weapon to enter any restricted building or grounds so that it impedes or disrupts the orderly conduct of government business or official functions.

The punishment for such offense is a fine, imprisonment for not more than 10 years, or both, if during and in relation to the offense a deadly or dangerous weapon or firearm enters the restricted building or grounds.

The term "restricted buildings or grounds" is revised to include: (1) any restricted area of a building or grounds that the President or other person protected by the Secret Service has designated as a non-governmental property in accordance with the Presidential Protection Assistance Act of 1976, and (2) the airspace above any such restricted area.

(Sec. 3) The bill applies provisions prohibiting threats against former Presidents and others to threats against former Vice Presidents, their spouses, and their minor children.

(Sec. 4) The Secret Service shall increase the annual number of training hours for Secret Service officers and agents. The increased training must include the recommendations for training described in the United States Secret Service Protective Mission Panel Report, released on December 15, 2014.

(Sec. 5) The Secret Service is authorized to: (1) construct facilities at the Rowley Training Center necessary to improve the training of officers of the U.S. Secret Service Uniformed Division and agents of the Secret Service, and (2) hire the number of officers for the Uniformed Division and agents for the Presidential Protective Detail necessary to satisfy the staffing recommendations made by such report.

(Sec. 7) The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) shall devise and adopt improved procedures for identifying, evaluating, and addressing vulnerabilities in the security of the White House and threats to persons protected by the Secret Service, including threats posed by unmanned aerial systems or explosive devices.

(Sec. 8) The Secret Service shall devise and adopt improved procedures for: (1) evaluating ways in which technology may be used to improve the security of the White House and the response to threats to persons protected by the Secret Service, and (2) retaining evidence pertaining to such ways for an appropriate period.

(Sec. 9) The Secret Service: (1) shall evaluate the practicability of equipping agents and officers with additional non-lethal weapons, and (2) may evaluate the practicability of equipping agents and officers with weapons beyond those currently provided.

(Sec. 10) Provisions of the Presidential Protection Assistance Act of 1976 requiring specified congressional committee approval of expenditures above a specified amount by the Secret Service for securing any non-governmental property in addition to the one non-governmental property designated by each protectee are replaced with provisions requiring specified congressional committee notification of any such expenditures.

(Sec. 11) The bill requires the establishment of an Ethics Program Office in the Office of the Chief Counsel of the Secret Service to ensure compliance with the Ethics in Government Act of 1978.

(Sec. 12) The Government Accountability Office shall report to Congress with a review of this bill's implementation and an evaluation of the Secret Service's progress in implementing recommendations outlined in the panel report.

Actions Timeline

- **Jul 13, 2016:** Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs. Reported by Senator Johnson with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. With written report No. 114-302.
- **Jul 13, 2016:** Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 560.
- **Feb 10, 2016:** Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs. Ordered to be reported with an amendment in the nature of a substitute favorably.
- **Jul 28, 2015:** Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.
- **Jul 27, 2015:** Reported (Amended) by the Committee on Judiciary. H. Rept. 114-231.
- **Jul 27, 2015:** Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 174.
- **Jul 27, 2015:** Mr. Goodlatte moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.
- **Jul 27, 2015:** Considered under suspension of the rules. (consideration: CR H5491-5494)
- **Jul 27, 2015:** DEBATE - The House proceeded with forty minutes of debate on H.R. 1656.
- **Jul 27, 2015:** At the conclusion of debate, the Yeas and Nays were demanded and ordered. Pursuant to the provisions of clause 8, rule XX, the Chair announced that further proceedings on the motion would be postponed.
- **Jul 27, 2015:** Considered as unfinished business. (consideration: CR H5511-5512)
- **Jul 27, 2015:** Passed/agreed to in House: On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended Agreed to by the Yeas and Nays: (2/3 required): 365 - 16 (Roll no. 468).(text: CR H5491-5492)
- **Jul 27, 2015:** Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
- **Jul 27, 2015:** On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended Agreed to by the Yeas and Nays: (2/3 required): 365 - 16 (Roll no. 468). (text: CR H5491-5492)
- **Jul 15, 2015:** Committee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held.
- **Jul 15, 2015:** Ordered to be Reported (Amended) by Voice Vote.
- **Jul 14, 2015:** Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, and Investigations Discharged.
- **Apr 29, 2015:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, and Investigations.
- **Mar 26, 2015:** Introduced in House
- **Mar 26, 2015:** Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary.