

S 2291

VA Patient Protection Act of 2015

Congress: 114 (2015–2017, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Armed Forces and National Security

Introduced: Nov 17, 2015

Current Status: Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Hearings held. Hearings printed: S.Hrg. 114-252.

Latest Action: Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Hearings held. Hearings printed: S.Hrg. 114-252. (Nov 18, 2015)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/senate-bill/2291>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Kirk, Mark Steven [R-IL]

Party: Republican • **State:** IL • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (12 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Baldwin, Tammy [D-WI]	D · WI		Nov 17, 2015
Sen. Blumenthal, Richard [D-CT]	D · CT		Nov 17, 2015
Sen. Gillibrand, Kirsten E. [D-NY]	D · NY		Nov 17, 2015
Sen. Grassley, Chuck [R-IA]	R · IA		Nov 17, 2015
Sen. Johnson, Ron [R-WI]	R · WI		Nov 17, 2015
Sen. Rubio, Marco [R-FL]	R · FL		Nov 17, 2015
Sen. Heller, Dean [R-NV]	R · NV		Dec 17, 2015
Sen. Toomey, Patrick [R-PA]	R · PA		Dec 17, 2015
Sen. Moran, Jerry [R-KS]	R · KS		Jan 11, 2016
Sen. Murphy, Christopher [D-CT]	D · CT		Feb 23, 2016
Sen. Donnelly, Joe [D-IN]	D · IN		Mar 1, 2016
Sen. Bennet, Michael F. [D-CO]	D · CO		Apr 19, 2016

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Veterans' Affairs Committee	Senate	Hearings By (full committee)	Nov 18, 2015

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Armed Forces and National Security

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
114 HR 5325	Related bill	Sep 29, 2016: Became Public Law No: 114-223.
114 S 2806	Related bill	Apr 18, 2016: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 424.
114 HR 3909	Related bill	Dec 3, 2015: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.

Summary (as of Nov 17, 2015)

VA Patient Protection Act of 2015

This bill establishes an additional method for filing whistle blower complaints in which a Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) employee may file such complaints with his or her immediate and next-level supervisors, and ultimately with the VA after having properly filed a complaint at each supervisory level.

If a supervisor makes a positive determination regarding such complaint the VA shall: (1) inform the employee of the ability to volunteer for a transfer, and (2) give preference to such transfer.

The VA may not exempt any employee from such whistle blower coverage.

The central whistle blower office shall be responsible for investigating all VA whistle blower complaints, regardless of whether such complaints are made by or against an employee who is not a Senior Executive Service member.

The VA shall carry out specified adverse actions against a supervisor who commits a prohibited personnel action relating to a whistle blower complaint.

A supervisor who commits a prohibited personnel action shall not be paid any award or bonus for a one-year period, and any award or bonus paid during that period shall be recouped.

VA employees shall receive annual whistle blower complaint training.

Congressional testimony by a VA employee in his or her official capacity shall be considered official duty, and the VA shall provide any such employee with travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, during the period when the employee is so testifying.

Actions Timeline

- **Nov 18, 2015:** Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Hearings held. Hearings printed: S.Hrg. 114-252.
- **Nov 17, 2015:** Introduced in Senate
- **Nov 17, 2015:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.