

S 238

Eric Williams Correctional Officer Protection Act of 2015

Congress: 114 (2015–2017, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Crime and Law Enforcement

Introduced: Jan 22, 2015

Current Status: Became Public Law No: 114-133.

Latest Action: Became Public Law No: 114-133. (Mar 9, 2016)

Law: 114-133 (Enacted Mar 9, 2016)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/senate-bill/238>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Toomey, Patrick [R-PA]

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

Cosponsors (9 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Casey, Robert P., Jr. [D-PA]	D · PA		Jan 22, 2015
Sen. Cornyn, John [R-TX]	R · TX		Jan 22, 2015
Sen. Manchin, Joe, III [D-WV]	D · WV		Jan 22, 2015
Sen. Vitter, David [R-LA]	R · LA		Jan 22, 2015
Sen. Capito, Shelley Moore [R-WV]	R · WV		Feb 10, 2015
Sen. Inhofe, James M. [R-OK]	R · OK		Feb 23, 2015
Sen. Kirk, Mark Steven [R-IL]	R · IL		Jun 23, 2015
Sen. Lankford, James [R-OK]	R · OK		Jul 21, 2015
Sen. McConnell, Mitch [R-KY]	R · KY		Sep 22, 2015

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Judiciary Committee	Senate	Discharged From	Dec 16, 2015
Judiciary Committee	House	Referred to	Jan 15, 2016

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Crime and Law Enforcement

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
114 HR 759	Related bill	Dec 23, 2016: Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 704.
114 S 2123	Related bill	Oct 26, 2015: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 279.
114 HR 472	Identical bill	Feb 19, 2015: Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, and Investigations.
114 S 467	Related bill	Feb 11, 2015: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. (text of measure as introduced: CR S939-944)

Summary (as of Mar 9, 2016)

(This measure has not been amended since it was introduced. The expanded summary of the Senate passed version is repeated here.)

Eric Williams Correctional Officer Protection Act of 2015

(Sec. 2) This bill amends the federal criminal code to require the Bureau of Prisons (BOP) to issue oleoresin capsicum spray (i.e., pepper spray) to officers and employees who respond to emergency situations at high-security, medium-security, and administrative facilities.

Officers and employees may use pepper spray to reduce violent acts by prisoners and visitors.

An officer of employee must complete a training course prior to receiving pepper spray and annually thereafter on its use.

(Sec. 3) The Government Accountability Office must: (1) evaluate the effect of issuing pepper spray on reducing crime and violence in high-security, medium-security, and administrative facilities; (2) evaluate the advisability of issuing pepper spray at low- or minimum-security facilities; and (3) recommend safety improvements for BOP officers and employees.

Actions Timeline

- **Mar 9, 2016:** Signed by President.
- **Mar 9, 2016:** Became Public Law No: 114-133.
- **Mar 1, 2016:** Presented to President.
- **Feb 24, 2016:** Mr. Goodlatte moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill.
- **Feb 24, 2016:** Considered under suspension of the rules. (consideration: CR H865-869)
- **Feb 24, 2016:** DEBATE - The House proceeded with forty minutes of debate on S. 238.
- **Feb 24, 2016:** Passed/agreed to in House: On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill Agreed to by voice vote.(text: CR H865-866)
- **Feb 24, 2016:** On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill Agreed to by voice vote. (text: CR H865-866)
- **Feb 24, 2016:** Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
- **Jan 15, 2016:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, and Investigations.
- **Dec 16, 2015:** Senate Committee on the Judiciary discharged by Unanimous Consent.(consideration: CR S8703-8704)
- **Dec 16, 2015:** Senate Committee on the Judiciary discharged by Unanimous Consent. (consideration: CR S8703-8704)
- **Dec 16, 2015:** Passed/agreed to in Senate: Passed Senate without amendment by Unanimous Consent.(text: CR S8703-8704)
- **Dec 16, 2015:** Passed Senate without amendment by Unanimous Consent. (text: CR S8703-8704)
- **Dec 16, 2015:** Message on Senate action sent to the House.
- **Dec 16, 2015:** Received in the House.
- **Dec 16, 2015:** Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary.
- **Jan 22, 2015:** Introduced in Senate
- **Jan 22, 2015:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.