

HR 2994

Safer Communities Act of 2015

Congress: 114 (2015–2017, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Crime and Law Enforcement

Introduced: Jul 9, 2015

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. (Jul 29, 2015)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/house-bill/2994>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Thompson, Mike [D-CA-5]

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

Cosponsors (44 total)

| Cosponsor | Party / State | Role | Date Joined |
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| Rep. Cohen, Steve [D-TN-9] | D · TN | | Jul 13, 2015 |
| Rep. Grijalva, Raúl M. [D-AZ-3] | D · AZ | | Jul 13, 2015 |
| Rep. Chu, Judy [D-CA-27] | D · CA | | Jul 22, 2015 |
| Rep. McGovern, James P. [D-MA-2] | D · MA | | Jul 22, 2015 |
| Rep. Pocan, Mark [D-WI-2] | D · WI | | Jul 23, 2015 |
| Rep. Rangel, Charles B. [D-NY-13] | D · NY | | Jul 23, 2015 |
| Rep. Rice, Kathleen M. [D-NY-4] | D · NY | | Jul 29, 2015 |
| Rep. Lofgren, Zoe [D-CA-19] | D · CA | | Sep 8, 2015 |
| Rep. Beyer, Donald S., Jr. [D-VA-8] | D · VA | | Sep 15, 2015 |
| Rep. Bonamici, Suzanne [D-OR-1] | D · OR | | Oct 5, 2015 |
| Rep. DeFazio, Peter A. [D-OR-4] | D · OR | | Oct 5, 2015 |
| Rep. Moulton, Seth [D-MA-6] | D · MA | | Oct 8, 2015 |
| Rep. Engel, Eliot L. [D-NY-16] | D · NY | | Oct 20, 2015 |
| Rep. Huffman, Jared [D-CA-2] | D · CA | | Oct 20, 2015 |
| Rep. Keating, William R. [D-MA-9] | D · MA | | Oct 20, 2015 |
| Rep. Sires, Albio [D-NJ-8] | D · NJ | | Oct 21, 2015 |
| Rep. Takano, Mark [D-CA-41] | D · CA | | Oct 23, 2015 |
| Rep. Ruppersberger, C. A. Dutch [D-MD-2] | D · MD | | Oct 26, 2015 |
| Rep. Eshoo, Anna G. [D-CA-18] | D · CA | | Nov 2, 2015 |
| Rep. Lowey, Nita M. [D-NY-17] | D · NY | | Nov 2, 2015 |
| Rep. Lowenthal, Alan S. [D-CA-47] | D · CA | | Jan 6, 2016 |
| Rep. Duckworth, Tammy [D-IL-8] | D · IL | | Jan 8, 2016 |
| Rep. Lynch, Stephen F. [D-MA-8] | D · MA | | Jan 11, 2016 |

| Cosponsor | Party / State | Role | Date Joined |
|---|---------------|------|--------------|
| Rep. Slaughter, Louise McIntosh [D-NY-25] | D · NY | | Jun 21, 2016 |
| Rep. Vargas, Juan [D-CA-51] | D · CA | | Jul 6, 2016 |
| Rep. Murphy, Patrick [D-FL-18] | D · FL | | Jul 7, 2016 |

Committee Activity

| Committee | Chamber | Activity | Date |
|-------------------------------|---------|-------------|--------------|
| Energy and Commerce Committee | House | Referred to | Jul 10, 2015 |
| Judiciary Committee | House | Referred to | Jul 29, 2015 |

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Crime and Law Enforcement

Related Bills

| Bill | Relationship | Last Action |
|-------------|--------------|--|
| 114 HR 3926 | Related bill | Nov 6, 2015: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health. |
| 114 S 2192 | Related bill | Oct 21, 2015: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. |
| 114 S 1738 | Related bill | Jul 9, 2015: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. |
| 114 HR 1217 | Related bill | Mar 31, 2015: Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, and Investigations. |

Safer Communities Act of 2015

This bill provides grants to expand mental health crisis assistance programs, to support comprehensive school mental health programs, and to enhance mental health and substance abuse needs of prison inmates.

The bill directs the Department of Health and Human Services to expand research on violence associated with mental illness and substance abuse disorders.

It requires the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to expand the National Violent Death Reporting System to all 50 states and to research the causes, mechanisms, prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of injuries from gun violence.

The bill states that no provision of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act prohibits physicians from asking patients about guns in their homes, speaking to a patient about gun safety, or reporting a patient's threat of violence.

It amends the Gun Control Act of 1968 to specify that the term "committed to a mental institution" applies to involuntary inpatient or outpatient treatment.

The bill amends the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to permit the Department of Justice (DOJ) to award grants to states to remove firearms from individuals who pose a threat to themselves or others.

DOJ must promptly notify law enforcement agencies when a prohibited person attempts to purchase a firearm.

The bill replaces statutory references to persons "adjudicated as a mental defective" with persons "adjudicated as ineligible due to disqualifying mental status."

It amends the NICS Improvement Amendments Act of 2007 to:

- establish procedures to restore firearm ownership rights after a mental health adjudication or commitment,
- require an annual report on record submissions due to domestic violence misdemeanor convictions,
- authorize state grants to improve the automation and transmittal of mental health and criminal history records, and
- require quarterly updates to federal agency record submissions.

The bill reauthorizes the National Criminal History Records Improvement Program for FY2016-FY2019.

Actions Timeline

- **Jul 29, 2015:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, and Investigations.
- **Jul 10, 2015:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.
- **Jul 9, 2015:** Introduced in House
- **Jul 9, 2015:** Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, 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.