

## S 3051

Puppies Assisting Wounded Servicemembers (PAWS) Act of 2016

**Congress:** 114 (2015–2017, Ended)

**Chamber:** Senate

**Policy Area:** Armed Forces and National Security

**Introduced:** Jun 13, 2016

**Current Status:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

**Latest Action:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs. (Jun 13, 2016)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/senate-bill/3051>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Sen. Fischer, Deb [R-NE]

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

### Cosponsors

*No cosponsors are listed for this bill.*

### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Veterans' Affairs Committee	Senate	Referred To	Jun 13, 2016

### Subjects & Policy Tags

**Policy Area:**

Armed Forces and National Security

### Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
114 S 3132	Identical bill	<b>Jul 6, 2016:</b> Read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.
114 HR 4764	Related bill	<b>Mar 16, 2016:</b> Referred to the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

## **Puppies Assisting Wounded Servicemembers (PAWS) Act of 2016**

This bill directs the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), through the Office of Patient Centered Care and Cultural Transformation, to carry out a five-year pilot program under which the VA shall provide a service dog and veterinary health insurance to a veteran who:

- is diagnosed with post-traumatic stress disorder rated at a severity level of 3 or 4 on the Clinician-Administered PTSD Scale for DSM-5 (CAPS-5),
- has completed an evidence-based treatment and remains significantly symptomatic,
- served on active duty on or after September 11, 2001,
- has not experienced satisfactory improvement in symptoms after being treated with evidence-based therapies.

The VA shall enter into contracts with appropriate providers that are certified by Assistance Dogs International or a similar organization for the procurement of service dogs and training of such dogs and their recipients.

The provision of a service dog shall be done in addition to other types of treatment for post-traumatic stress disorder and shall not replace established treatment modalities.

### **Actions Timeline**

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- **Jun 13, 2016:** Introduced in Senate
- **Jun 13, 2016:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.