

S 3184

Back the Blue Act of 2016

Congress: 114 (2015–2017, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Crime and Law Enforcement

Introduced: Jul 13, 2016

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. (Sponsor introductory remarks on measure:

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. (Sponsor introductory remarks on measure: CR S5082-5083; text of measure as introduced: CR S5083-5085) (Jul 13, 2016)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/senate-bill/3184>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Cornyn, John [R-TX]

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

Cosponsors (13 total)

| Cosponsor | Party / State | Role | Date Joined |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|------|--------------|
| Sen. Ayotte, Kelly [R-NH] | R · NH | | Jul 13, 2016 |
| Sen. Barrasso, John [R-WY] | R · WY | | Jul 13, 2016 |
| Sen. Boozman, John [R-AR] | R · AR | | Jul 13, 2016 |
| Sen. Cruz, Ted [R-TX] | R · TX | | Jul 13, 2016 |
| Sen. Portman, Rob [R-OH] | R · OH | | Jul 13, 2016 |
| Sen. Tillis, Thomas [R-NC] | R · NC | | Jul 13, 2016 |
| Sen. Blunt, Roy [R-MO] | R · MO | | Jul 14, 2016 |
| Sen. Heller, Dean [R-NV] | R · NV | | Jul 14, 2016 |
| Sen. Vitter, David [R-LA] | R · LA | | Jul 14, 2016 |
| Sen. Capito, Shelley Moore [R-WV] | R · WV | | Sep 6, 2016 |
| Sen. Cassidy, Bill [R-LA] | R · LA | | Sep 6, 2016 |
| Sen. Fischer, Deb [R-NE] | R · NE | | Sep 6, 2016 |
| Sen. Perdue, David [R-GA] | R · GA | | Sep 6, 2016 |

Committee Activity

| Committee | Chamber | Activity | Date |
|---------------------|---------|-------------|--------------|
| Judiciary Committee | Senate | Referred To | Jul 13, 2016 |

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Crime and Law Enforcement

Related Bills

| Bill | Relationship | Last Action |
|-------------|----------------|---|
| 114 HR 5809 | Identical bill | Aug 11, 2016: Referred to the Subcommittee on the Constitution and Civil Justice. |

Summary (as of Jul 13, 2016)

Back the Blue Act of 2016

This bill amends the federal criminal code by establishing mandatory minimum sentences of 10 years in prison for offenders who kill, or attempt or conspire to kill, current or former U.S. judges and federal law enforcement officers. Offenders are subject to 30 years in prison or the death penalty if death results.

Additionally, the bill makes it illegal to kill, or attempt or conspire to kill, current or former public safety officers or judicial officers who work for state or local governments that are federally funded if the officers were engaged in official duties or targeted on account of their duties. The penalties for crimes against federal officials are also applied for crimes against federally funded public safety officers.

The bill: (1) makes it a crime to assault an individual involved in crime and juvenile delinquency control or reduction, or enforcement of the laws of states; and (2) increases penalties based on the degree of bodily injury caused by the assault and the type of weapon used.

A new federal crime is established for fleeing authorities to avoid prosecution, custody, or confinement after conviction for a killing, attempting to kill, or conspiring to kill, a federal judge or law enforcement officer, or a federally funded public safety officer.

The bill expands the authority of federal and state law enforcement officers to carry firearms in federal facilities.

The Department of Justice must award grants to state, local, or tribal enforcement agencies for improving their relationships with the communities they serve.

Actions Timeline

- Jul 13, 2016: Introduced in Senate
- Jul 13, 2016: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. (Sponsor introductory remarks on measure: CR S5082-5083; text of measure as introduced: CR S5083-5085)