

HR 4253

Avonte's Law Act of 2015

Congress: 114 (2015–2017, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Crime and Law Enforcement

Introduced: Dec 15, 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. (Jan 15, 2016)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/house-bill/4253>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Hastings, Alcee L. [D-FL-20]

Party: Democratic • State: FL • Chamber: House

Cosponsors (9 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Grijalva, Raúl M. [D-AZ-3]	D · AZ		Dec 15, 2015
Rep. Johnson, Eddie Bernice [D-TX-30]	D · TX		Dec 15, 2015
Rep. Johnson, Henry C. "Hank," Jr. [D-GA-4]	D · GA		Dec 15, 2015
Rep. Murphy, Patrick [D-FL-18]	D · FL		Dec 15, 2015
Rep. Van Hollen, Chris [D-MD-8]	D · MD		Dec 15, 2015
Rep. Vela, Filemon [D-TX-34]	D · TX		Dec 17, 2015
Rep. Davis, Danny K. [D-IL-7]	D · IL		Dec 18, 2015
Rep. Lowenthal, Alan S. [D-CA-47]	D · CA		Feb 1, 2016
Rep. Peters, Scott H. [D-CA-52]	D · CA		Mar 17, 2016

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Judiciary Committee	House	Referred to	Jan 15, 2016

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Crime and Law Enforcement

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
114 S 163	Identical bill	Jan 13, 2015: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

## **Avonte's Law Act of 2015**

This bill amends the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to authorize the Department of Justice (DOJ) to make grants to law enforcement agencies to: (1) reduce the risk of injury and death relating to the wandering characteristics of some individuals with autism and other disabilities, and (2) safeguard the well-being of individuals with disabilities during interactions with law enforcement.

It requires grant awards to be used to: (1) provide education and resources to law enforcement agencies, first responders, schools, clinicians, and the public in order to reduce the risk of wandering by such individuals, help to identify signs of abuse in such individuals, increase their personal safety and survival skills, and facilitate effective communication with individuals who have communication-related disabilities; (2) provide training and emergency protocols for school administrators, staff, and families; (3) provide response tools and training for law enforcement and search-and-rescue agencies, including tracking technology; or (4) provide response tools and training to law enforcement agencies in order to recognize and respond to individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

DOJ must establish standards and best practices relating to the use of tracking technology to monitor children with autism and other disabilities. It requires each law enforcement agency that receives a grant to comply with any such standards and best practices.

## **Actions Timeline**

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- **Jan 15, 2016:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, and Investigations.
- **Dec 15, 2015:** Introduced in House
- **Dec 15, 2015:** Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR E1794)
- **Dec 15, 2015:** Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary.