

HR 5571

Sexual Assault Survivors' Rights Act

Congress: 114 (2015–2017, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Crime and Law Enforcement

Introduced: Jun 22, 2016

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. (Jun 30, 2016)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/house-bill/5571>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Wasserman Schultz, Debbie [D-FL-23]

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

Cosponsors (19 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Smith, Lamar [R-TX-21]	R · TX		Jun 22, 2016
Del. Norton, Eleanor Holmes [D-DC-At Large]	D · DC		Jul 14, 2016
Rep. Beyer, Donald S., Jr. [D-VA-8]	D · VA		Jul 14, 2016
Rep. Blumenauer, Earl [D-OR-3]	D · OR		Jul 14, 2016
Rep. Clark, Katherine M. [D-MA-5]	D · MA		Jul 14, 2016
Rep. Edwards, Donna F. [D-MD-4]	D · MD		Jul 14, 2016
Rep. Grayson, Alan [D-FL-9]	D · FL		Jul 14, 2016
Rep. Hastings, Alcee L. [D-FL-20]	D · FL		Jul 14, 2016
Rep. Lawrence, Brenda L. [D-MI-14]	D · MI		Jul 14, 2016
Rep. Moore, Gwen [D-WI-4]	D · WI		Jul 14, 2016
Rep. Napolitano, Grace F. [D-CA-32]	D · CA		Jul 14, 2016
Rep. Watson Coleman, Bonnie [D-NJ-12]	D · NJ		Jul 14, 2016
Rep. Bonamici, Suzanne [D-OR-1]	D · OR		Sep 7, 2016
Rep. Chu, Judy [D-CA-27]	D · CA		Sep 7, 2016
Rep. Cicilline, David N. [D-RI-1]	D · RI		Sep 7, 2016
Rep. McGovern, James P. [D-MA-2]	D · MA		Sep 7, 2016
Rep. Slaughter, Louise McIntosh [D-NY-25]	D · NY		Sep 7, 2016
Rep. Swalwell, Eric [D-CA-15]	D · CA		Sep 7, 2016
Rep. Aguilar, Pete [D-CA-31]	D · CA		Sep 28, 2016

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Energy and Commerce Committee	House	Referred To	Jun 22, 2016
Judiciary Committee	House	Referred to	Jun 30, 2016

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Crime and Law Enforcement

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
114 HR 5578	Related bill	Oct 7, 2016: Became Public Law No: 114-236.
114 S 2566	Related bill	Feb 23, 2016: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Summary (as of Jun 22, 2016)

Sexual Assault Survivors' Rights Act

This bill amends the federal criminal code to establish statutory rights for sexual assault survivors, including the right to: (1) receive a forensic medical examination at no cost; (2) have a sexual assault evidence collection kit (i.e., rape kit) preserved for the maximum applicable statute of limitations; (3) receive written notification prior to destruction or disposal of a rape kit; and (4) be informed of the rights and policies under this section.

Additionally, it makes statutory crime victims' rights applicable to sexual assault survivors.

The bill amends the Victims' Rights and Restitution Act of 1990 to include information about sexual assault services, programs, and providers in the description of services provided to victims.

The bill amends the Victims of Crime Act of 1984 to authorize the Department of Justice's (DOJ's) Office of Justice Programs to make grants to states to develop sexual assault survivors' rights and policies and to disseminate written notice of such rights and policies to medical centers, hospitals, forensic examiners, sexual assault service providers, law enforcement agencies, and other state entities.

DOJ and the Department of Health and Human Services must establish a joint working group to develop, coordinate, and disseminate best practices regarding the care and treatment of sexual assault survivors and the preservation of forensic evidence.

For purposes of this bill, the term "sexual assault survivor" includes a legal representative acting on behalf of a deceased victim of sexual assault.

Actions Timeline

- **Jun 30, 2016:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, and Investigations.
- **Jun 22, 2016:** Introduced in House
- **Jun 22, 2016:** 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.