

HR 5578

Survivors' Bill of Rights Act of 2016

Congress: 114 (2015–2017, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Crime and Law Enforcement

Introduced: Jun 24, 2016

Current Status: Became Public Law No: 114-236.

Latest Action: Became Public Law No: 114-236. (Oct 7, 2016)

Law: 114-236 (Enacted Oct 7, 2016)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/house-bill/5578>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Walters, Mimi [R-CA-45]

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

Cosponsors (40 total)

| Cosponsor | Party / State | Role | Date Joined |
|---|---------------|------|--------------|
| Del. Norton, Eleanor Holmes [D-DC-At Large] | D · DC | | Jun 24, 2016 |
| Rep. Beyer, Donald S., Jr. [D-VA-8] | D · VA | | Jun 24, 2016 |
| Rep. Brooks, Susan W. [R-IN-5] | R · IN | | Jun 24, 2016 |
| Rep. Cohen, Steve [D-TN-9] | D · TN | | Jun 24, 2016 |
| Rep. Comstock, Barbara [R-VA-10] | R · VA | | Jun 24, 2016 |
| Rep. Conyers, John, Jr. [D-MI-13] | D · MI | | Jun 24, 2016 |
| Rep. Costello, Ryan A. [R-PA-6] | R · PA | | Jun 24, 2016 |
| Rep. DelBene, Suzan K. [D-WA-1] | D · WA | | Jun 24, 2016 |
| Rep. Farr, Sam [D-CA-20] | D · CA | | Jun 24, 2016 |
| Rep. Goodlatte, Bob [R-VA-6] | R · VA | | Jun 24, 2016 |
| Rep. Gowdy, Trey [R-SC-4] | R · SC | | Jun 24, 2016 |
| Rep. Herrera Beutler, Jaime [R-WA-3] | R · WA | | Jun 24, 2016 |
| Rep. Jackson Lee, Sheila [D-TX-18] | D · TX | | Jun 24, 2016 |
| Rep. Jeffries, Hakeem S. [D-NY-8] | D · NY | | Jun 24, 2016 |
| Rep. Johnson, Henry C. "Hank," Jr. [D-GA-4] | D · GA | | Jun 24, 2016 |
| Rep. Keating, William R. [D-MA-9] | D · MA | | Jun 24, 2016 |
| Rep. Lofgren, Zoe [D-CA-19] | D · CA | | Jun 24, 2016 |
| Rep. Lowenthal, Alan S. [D-CA-47] | D · CA | | Jun 24, 2016 |
| Rep. Meeks, Gregory W. [D-NY-5] | D · NY | | Jun 24, 2016 |
| Rep. Nadler, Jerrold [D-NY-10] | D · NY | | Jun 24, 2016 |
| Rep. Richmond, Cedric L. [D-LA-2] | D · LA | | Jun 24, 2016 |
| Rep. Smith, Lamar [R-TX-21] | R · TX | | Jun 24, 2016 |
| Rep. Speier, Jackie [D-CA-14] | D · CA | | Jun 24, 2016 |
| Rep. Stefanik, Elise M. [R-NY-21] | R · NY | | Jun 24, 2016 |
| Rep. Tsongas, Niki [D-MA-3] | D · MA | | Jun 24, 2016 |
| Rep. Wasserman Schultz, Debbie [D-FL-23] | D · FL | | Jun 24, 2016 |
| Rep. DeLauro, Rosa L. [D-CT-3] | D · CT | | Jun 28, 2016 |
| Rep. Lieu, Ted [D-CA-33] | D · CA | | Jun 28, 2016 |
| Rep. Posey, Bill [R-FL-8] | R · FL | | Jun 28, 2016 |
| Rep. Wagner, Ann [R-MO-2] | R · MO | | Jun 28, 2016 |
| Rep. Issa, Darrell E. [R-CA-49] | R · CA | | Jul 1, 2016 |
| Rep. Slaughter, Louise McIntosh [D-NY-25] | D · NY | | Jul 6, 2016 |
| Rep. Cicilline, David N. [D-RI-1] | D · RI | | Jul 7, 2016 |
| Rep. Peters, Scott H. [D-CA-52] | D · CA | | Jul 8, 2016 |
| Rep. Takano, Mark [D-CA-41] | D · CA | | Jul 11, 2016 |
| Rep. Kuster, Ann M. [D-NH-2] | D · NH | | Jul 12, 2016 |
| Rep. Hastings, Alcee L. [D-FL-20] | D · FL | | Jul 13, 2016 |
| Rep. Boyle, Brendan F. [D-PA-13] | D · PA | | Jul 21, 2016 |
| Rep. Loebsack, David [D-IA-2] | D · IA | | Sep 6, 2016 |
| Rep. Meehan, Patrick [R-PA-7] | R · PA | | Sep 6, 2016 |

Committee Activity

| Committee | Chamber | Activity | Date |
|-------------------------------|---------|-----------------|--------------|
| Energy and Commerce Committee | House | Discharged From | Sep 6, 2016 |
| Judiciary Committee | House | Discharged from | Jul 5, 2016 |
| Judiciary Committee | Senate | Discharged From | Sep 28, 2016 |

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Crime and Law Enforcement

Related Bills

| Bill | Relationship | Last Action |
|-------------|--------------|---|
| 114 HR 5571 | Related bill | Jun 30, 2016: Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, and Investigations. |
| 114 S 2613 | Related bill | Jun 1, 2016: Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, and Investigations. |
| 114 S 2566 | Related bill | Feb 23, 2016: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. |

Summary (as of Oct 7, 2016)

(This measure has not been amended since it was introduced. The summary has been expanded because action occurred on the measure.)

Survivors' Bill of Rights Act of 2016

(Sec. 3) This bill amends the federal criminal code to establish statutory rights for sexual assault survivors, including the right to: (1) not be prevented from receiving a forensic medical examination and not be charged for an examination; (2) have a sexual assault evidence collection kit (i.e., a rape kit) preserved for 20 years or the maximum applicable statute of limitations, whichever is shorter; (3) receive written notification prior to destruction or disposal of a rape kit; and (4) be informed of these rights and policies.

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

The term "sexual assault" means any nonconsensual sexual act prohibited by federal, state, or tribal law, including when a victim lacks capacity to consent.

Funds made available to the Crime Victims Fund under the Victims of Crime Act of 1984 must be used to carry out the requirements concerning these rights, subject to specified exceptions.

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.

(Sec. 4) DOJ must establish a working group to develop, coordinate, and disseminate best practices regarding the care and treatment of sexual assault survivors and the preservation of forensic evidence.

Actions Timeline

- **Oct 7, 2016:** Signed by President.
- **Oct 7, 2016:** Became Public Law No: 114-236.
- **Oct 3, 2016:** Presented to President.
- **Sep 28, 2016:** Senate Committee on the Judiciary discharged by Unanimous Consent.(consideration: CR S6198-6199)
- **Sep 28, 2016:** Senate Committee on the Judiciary discharged by Unanimous Consent. (consideration: CR S6198-6199)
- **Sep 28, 2016:** Passed/agreed to in Senate: Passed Senate without amendment by Voice Vote.
- **Sep 28, 2016:** Passed Senate without amendment by Voice Vote.
- **Sep 28, 2016:** Message on Senate action sent to the House.
- **Sep 7, 2016:** Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.
- **Sep 6, 2016:** Reported by the Committee on Judiciary. H. Rept. 114-707, Part I.
- **Sep 6, 2016:** Committee on Energy and Commerce discharged.
- **Sep 6, 2016:** Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 546.
- **Sep 6, 2016:** Mr. Goodlatte moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill.
- **Sep 6, 2016:** Considered under suspension of the rules. (consideration: CR H5045-5049)
- **Sep 6, 2016:** DEBATE - The House proceeded with forty minutes of debate on H.R. 5578.
- **Sep 6, 2016:** At the conclusion of debate, the Yeas and Nays were demanded and ordered. Pursuant to the provisions of clause 8, rule XX, the Chair announced that further proceedings on the motion would be postponed.
- **Sep 6, 2016:** Considered as unfinished business. (consideration: CR H5071)
- **Sep 6, 2016:** Passed/agreed to in House: On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill Agreed to by the Yeas and Nays: (2/3 required): 399 - 0 (Roll no. 479).(text: CR H5045-5046)
- **Sep 6, 2016:** On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill Agreed to by the Yeas and Nays: (2/3 required): 399 - 0 (Roll no. 479). (text: CR H5045-5046)
- **Sep 6, 2016:** Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
- **Jul 7, 2016:** Committee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held.
- **Jul 7, 2016:** Ordered to be Reported by Voice Vote.
- **Jul 5, 2016:** Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, and Investigations Discharged.
- **Jun 30, 2016:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, and Investigations.
- **Jun 24, 2016:** Introduced in House
- **Jun 24, 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.