

HR 5809

Back the Blue Act of 2016

Congress: 114 (2015–2017, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Crime and Law Enforcement

Introduced: Jul 14, 2016

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on the Constitution and Civil Justice.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on the Constitution and Civil Justice. (Aug 11, 2016)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/house-bill/5809>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Poe, Ted [R-TX-2]

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

Cosponsors (12 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Johnson, Sam [R-TX-3]	R · TX		Jul 14, 2016
Rep. McCaul, Michael T. [R-TX-10]	R · TX		Jul 14, 2016
Rep. Neugebauer, Randy [R-TX-19]	R · TX		Jul 14, 2016
Rep. Sessions, Pete [R-TX-32]	R · TX		Jul 14, 2016
Rep. Smith, Lamar [R-TX-21]	R · TX		Jul 14, 2016
Rep. Williams, Roger [R-TX-25]	R · TX		Jul 14, 2016
Rep. Graves, Garret [R-LA-6]	R · LA		Jul 21, 2016
Rep. Hartzler, Vicky [R-MO-4]	R · MO		Jul 21, 2016
Rep. Johnson, Bill [R-OH-6]	R · OH		Jul 25, 2016
Rep. Murphy, Tim [R-PA-18]	R · PA		Jul 25, 2016
Rep. Stivers, Steve [R-OH-15]	R · OH		Jul 25, 2016
Rep. Joyce, David P. [R-OH-14]	R · OH		Sep 6, 2016

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Judiciary Committee	House	Referred to	Aug 11, 2016
Judiciary Committee	House	Referred to	Aug 11, 2016

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Crime and Law Enforcement

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
114 S 3184	Identical bill	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)

Summary (as of Jul 14, 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 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

- **Aug 11, 2016:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, and Investigations.
- **Aug 11, 2016:** Referred to the Subcommittee on the Constitution and Civil Justice.
- **Jul 14, 2016:** Introduced in House
- **Jul 14, 2016:** Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary.