

## S 706

### SOS Campus Act

**Congress:** 114 (2015–2017, Ended)

**Chamber:** Senate

**Policy Area:** Education

**Introduced:** Mar 11, 2015

**Current Status:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

**Latest Action:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions. (Mar 11, 2015)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/senate-bill/706>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Sen. Boxer, Barbara [D-CA]

**Party:** Democratic • **State:** CA • **Chamber:** Senate

### Cosponsors (8 total)

| Cosponsor                          | Party / State | Role | Date Joined  |
|------------------------------------|---------------|------|--------------|
| Sen. Gillibrand, Kirsten E. [D-NY] | D · NY        |      | Mar 11, 2015 |
| Sen. Kaine, Tim [D-VA]             | D · VA        |      | Mar 11, 2015 |
| Sen. Feinstein, Dianne [D-CA]      | D · CA        |      | Jul 27, 2015 |
| Sen. Reid, Harry [D-NV]            | D · NV        |      | Aug 5, 2015  |
| Sen. Schatz, Brian [D-HI]          | D · HI        |      | Dec 10, 2015 |
| Sen. Baldwin, Tammy [D-WI]         | D · WI        |      | Dec 17, 2015 |
| Sen. Peters, Gary C. [D-MI]        | D · MI        |      | Dec 17, 2015 |
| Sen. Hirono, Mazie K. [D-HI]       | D · HI        |      | Jul 14, 2016 |

### Committee Activity

| Committee  | Chamber | Activity    | Date         |
|--|---------|-------------|--------------|
| Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee | Senate  | Referred To | Mar 11, 2015 |

### Subjects & Policy Tags

**Policy Area:**

Education

### Related Bills

| Bill        | Relationship | Last Action  |
|-------------|--------------|--|
| 114 HR 1490 | Related bill | Nov 16, 2015: Referred to the Subcommittee on Higher Education and Workforce Training. |

## **Survivor Outreach and Support Campus Act or the SOS Campus Act**

Amends the Higher Education Act of 1965 to require each institution of higher education (IHE) that participates in the programs under title IV (Student Assistance) to designate an independent advocate for campus sexual assault prevention and response (Advocate) with experience in providing sexual assault victim services.

Directs the Secretary of Education to prescribe regulations for IHEs to follow in appointing Advocates.

Requires each Advocate to: (1) report to an individual outside the body responsible for investigating and adjudicating sexual assault complaints at the IHE, (2) submit to such individual an annual report summarizing how the resources supplied to the Advocate were used, and (3) represent the interests of each student victim even when they conflict with the IHE's interests.

Directs each Advocate to:

- ensure that sexual assault victims at the IHE receive, with their consent, specified information and services;
- guide sexual assault victims who request assistance through the reporting, counseling, administrative, medical and health, academic accommodations, or legal processes of the IHE or local law enforcement;
- attend, at the request of a sexual assault victim, any administrative or IHE-based adjudication proceeding related to such assault as an advocate for the victim;
- maintain the privacy and confidentiality of the victim and any witness to such sexual assault, without notifying the IHE or any other authority of the identity of the victim or of any such witness or the alleged circumstances surrounding the reported sexual assault, unless otherwise required to do so by state law; and
- conduct a public information campaign to inform the students enrolled at the IHE of the existence of, contact information for, and services provided by the Advocate.

Prohibits IHEs from retaliating against: (1) Advocates for representing the interests of a student victims, or (2) student victims for reporting sexual assaults to Advocates.

## **Actions Timeline**

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- **Mar 11, 2015:** Introduced in Senate
- **Mar 11, 2015:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.