S 756

Syrian War Crimes Accountability Act of 2015

Congress: 114 (2015–2017, Ended)
Chamber: Senate
Policy Area: International Affairs
Introduced: Mar 17, 2015
Current Status: Referred to the House Committee on Foreign Affairs.
Latest Action: Referred to the House Committee on Foreign Affairs. (Jul 15, 2015)
Official Text: https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/senate-bill/756

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Cardin, Benjamin L. [D-MD]
Party: Democratic • **State:** MD • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (6 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Menendez, Robert [D-NJ]	D · NJ		Mar 17, 2015
Sen. Rubio, Marco [R-FL]	R · FL		Mar 17, 2015
Sen. Peters, Gary C. [D-MI]	D · MI		Mar 18, 2015
Sen. Shaheen, Jeanne [D-NH]	D · NH		Mar 19, 2015
Sen. Klobuchar, Amy [D-MN]	D · MN		Mar 24, 2015
Sen. Coons, Christopher A. [D-DE]	D · DE		Mar 25, 2015

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Foreign Affairs Committee	House	Referred To	Jul 15, 2015
Foreign Relations Committee	Senate	Reported By	Jun 11, 2015

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

International Affairs

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Summary (as of Jul 14, 2015)

(This measure has not been amended since it was introduced. The expanded summary of the Senate reported version is repeated here.)

Syrian War Crimes Accountability Act of 2015

(Sec. 3) Declares that Congress:

- condemns the ongoing violence, use of chemical weapons, targeting of civilian populations, and systematic gross human rights violations carried out by government of Syria and pro-government forces under the direction of President Bashar al-Assad, as well as abuses committed by extremist groups and other combatants involved in the civil war in Syria;
- supports the people of Syria seeking democratic change;
- urges all parties to the conflict to halt attacks on civilians;
- calls on the President to support efforts in Syria and on the part of the international community to ensure accountability for war crimes and crimes against humanity committed during the conflict; and
- calls for a United Nations Security Council investigation into gross violations of human rights and war crimes committed during the Syrian conflict.

(Sec. 4) Requires the Department of State to report to Congress regarding war crimes and crimes against humanity in Syria, including descriptions of:

- violations of internationally recognized human rights, war crimes, and crimes against humanity perpetrated during the civil war in Syria; and
- efforts by the Department and the U.S. Agency for International Development to ensure accountability for violations of internationally recognized human rights, international humanitarian law, and crimes against humanity perpetrated in Syria by the regime of President Bashar al-Assad, violent extremist groups, and other combatants involved in the conflict.

Actions Timeline

- **Jul 15, 2015:** Message on Senate action sent to the House.
- **Jul 15, 2015:** Received in the House.
- **Jul 15, 2015:** Referred to the House Committee on Foreign Affairs.
- **Jul 14, 2015:** Passed/agreed to in Senate: Passed Senate without amendment by Unanimous Consent.(consideration: CR S5088-5089; text as passed Senate: CR S5088-5089)
- **Jul 14, 2015:** Passed Senate without amendment by Unanimous Consent. (consideration: CR S5088-5089; text as passed Senate: CR S5088-5089)
- **Jun 11, 2015:** Committee on Foreign Relations. Reported by Senator Corker without amendment. Without written report.
- **Jun 11, 2015:** Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 117.
- **Jun 9, 2015:** Committee on Foreign Relations. Ordered to be reported without amendment favorably.
- **Mar 17, 2015:** Introduced in Senate
- **Mar 17, 2015:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

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