

S 1141

Women, Peace, and Security Act of 2017

Congress: 115 (2017–2019, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: International Affairs

Introduced: May 16, 2017

Current Status: Became Public Law No: 115-68.

Latest Action: Became Public Law No: 115-68. (Oct 6, 2017)

Law: 115-68 (Enacted Oct 6, 2017)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/senate-bill/1141>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Shaheen, Jeanne [D-NH]

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

Cosponsors (4 total)

| Cosponsor | Party / State | Role | Date Joined |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|------|--------------|
| Sen. Capito, Shelley Moore [R-WV] | R · WV | | May 16, 2017 |
| Sen. Coons, Christopher A. [D-DE] | D · DE | | May 24, 2017 |
| Sen. Rubio, Marco [R-FL] | R · FL | | May 24, 2017 |
| Sen. Cardin, Benjamin L. [D-MD] | D · MD | | Jun 6, 2017 |

Committee Activity

| Committee | Chamber | Activity | Date |
|-----------------------------|---------|-------------|-------------|
| Foreign Relations Committee | Senate | Reported By | Jun 8, 2017 |

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

International Affairs

Related Bills

| Bill | Relationship | Last Action |
|-------------|----------------|--|
| 115 HR 2484 | Identical bill | Jun 21, 2017: Received in the Senate. Read twice. Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 152. |

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

Women, Peace, and Security Act of 2017

(Sec. 3) This bill expresses the sense of Congress that: (1) the United States should be a global leader in promoting the participation of women in conflict prevention, management, and resolution and post-conflict relief and recovery efforts; (2) the political participation and leadership of women in fragile environments, particularly during democratic transitions, is critical to sustaining democratic institutions; and (3) the participation of women in conflict prevention and conflict resolution helps promote more inclusive and democratic societies and is critical to country and regional stability.

(Sec. 5) The President, within one year after enactment of this bill and again four years later, shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees and make public a Women, Peace, and Security Strategy, which shall:

- be aligned with other nations' plans to improve the participation of women in peace and security processes, conflict prevention, peace building, and decision-making institutions; and
- include goals and evaluation plans to ensure strategy effectiveness.

Such a strategy shall include a specific implementation plan from each relevant federal agency.

The President is urged to promote women's participation in conflict prevention.

It is the sense of Congress that the President should: (1) provide technical assistance and training to female negotiators, peace builders, and stakeholders (non-governmental and private sector entities engaged in or affected by conflict prevention and stabilization, peace building, security, or related efforts); (2) address security-related barriers to women's participation; (3) encourage increased women's participation in U.S.-funded programs that provide foreign nationals with law enforcement, rule of law, or military education training; (4) support appropriate local organizations, especially women's peace building organizations; and (5) expand gender analysis to improve program design.

(Sec. 6) The Department of State shall ensure that personnel responsible for, or deploying to, countries or regions considered to be at risk of undergoing, or emerging from, violent conflict obtain training in the following areas, each of which shall include a focus on ensuring participation by women:

- conflict prevention, mitigation, and resolution;
- protecting civilians from violence, exploitation, and trafficking in persons; and
- international human rights law.

The Department of Defense shall ensure that relevant personnel receive training in:

- conflict prevention, peace processes, mitigation, resolution, and security initiatives that addresses the importance of participation by women; and
- gender considerations and participation by women, including training regarding international human rights law and protecting civilians from violence, exploitation, and trafficking in persons.

(Sec. 7) The State Department and the U.S. Agency for International Development shall establish guidelines for overseas U.S. personnel to consult with stakeholders regarding U.S. efforts to:

prevent, mitigate, or resolve violent conflict; and

- enhance the success of mediation and negotiation processes by ensuring the meaningful participation of women.

The State Department is urged to work with international, regional, national, and local organizations to increase the participation of women in international peacekeeping operations.

(Sec. 8) The State Department, within one year after the first strategy's submission, shall brief the appropriate congressional committees on training regarding the participation of women in conflict resolution.

The President, within two years after each strategy's submission, shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report that evaluates the implementation of such strategy and the impact of U.S. diplomatic efforts and foreign assistance programs to promote the participation of women.

Actions Timeline

- **Oct 6, 2017:** Signed by President.
- **Oct 6, 2017:** Became Public Law No: 115-68.
- **Sep 28, 2017:** Presented to President.
- **Sep 25, 2017:** Mr. Royce (CA) moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill.
- **Sep 25, 2017:** Considered under suspension of the rules. (consideration: CR H7446-7450)
- **Sep 25, 2017:** DEBATE - The House proceeded with forty minutes of debate on S. 1141.
- **Sep 25, 2017:** Passed/agreed to in House: On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill Agreed to by voice vote.(text: CR H7447-7448)
- **Sep 25, 2017:** On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill Agreed to by voice vote. (text: CR H7447-7448)
- **Sep 25, 2017:** Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
- **Aug 4, 2017:** Message on Senate action sent to the House.
- **Aug 4, 2017:** Received in the House.
- **Aug 4, 2017:** Held at the desk.
- **Aug 3, 2017:** Passed/agreed to in Senate: Passed Senate without amendment by Voice Vote.(consideration: CR S4889-4891; text: CR S4889-4891)
- **Aug 3, 2017:** Passed Senate without amendment by Voice Vote. (consideration: CR S4889-4891; text: CR S4889-4891)
- **Jun 8, 2017:** Committee on Foreign Relations. Reported by Senator Corker without amendment. With written report No. 115-93.
- **Jun 8, 2017:** Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 123.
- **May 25, 2017:** Committee on Foreign Relations. Ordered to be reported without amendment favorably.
- **May 16, 2017:** Introduced in Senate
- **May 16, 2017:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

LegiList

CONGRESS, MADE CLEAR.

Search Every Federal Bill, Law, and Vote

LegiList is the fastest way to research Congress. Track any bill from introduction to enactment, see how every legislator voted, follow committee activity, and read the full text of every bill — all in one place, always up to date.

legilist.com

Free Course: Learn How Congress Actually Works

LegiList Learn is a free, self-paced course that walks through the entire legislative process — from drafting a bill to a presidential signature. Seven modules, plain language, no politics. Earn a certificate when you finish.

legilist.com/learn

Developer API: Build Apps on Legislative Data

The LegiList API gives developers direct access to bills, votes, legislators, committees, and more. Start free with 1,000 requests per day — no credit card required. Upgrade to Pro when you need to scale.

legilist.com/api

Public data belongs to the public. — legilist.com