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Mens Rea Reform Act of 2017

Congress: 115 (2017–2019, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Crime and Law Enforcement

Introduced: Oct 2, 2017

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. (Oct 2, 2017)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/senate-bill/1902>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Hatch, Orrin G. [R-UT]

Party: Republican • **State:** UT • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (4 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Cruz, Ted [R-TX]	R · TX		Oct 2, 2017
Sen. Lee, Mike [R-UT]	R · UT		Oct 2, 2017
Sen. Paul, Rand [R-KY]	R · KY		Oct 2, 2017
Sen. Perdue, David [R-GA]	R · GA		Oct 2, 2017

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Judiciary Committee	Senate	Referred To	Oct 2, 2017

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Crime and Law Enforcement

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
115 S 3118	Related bill	Jun 21, 2018: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mens Rea Reform Act of 2017

This bill establishes a default *mens rea* (i.e., guilty mind) requirement for federal criminal statutory and regulatory offenses that lack a state of mind requirement.

The government must generally prove that a defendant acted willfully with respect to each element of the offense that lacks a specific state of mind requirement.

Actions Timeline

- **Oct 2, 2017:** Introduced in Senate
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