

HR 4142

Safer Communities Act of 2017

Congress: 115 (2017–2019, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Crime and Law Enforcement

Introduced: Oct 26, 2017

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, and Investigations.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, and Investigations. (Nov 14, 2017)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/4142>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Thompson, Mike [D-CA-5]

Party: Democratic • State: CA • Chamber: House

Cosponsors (7 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Perlmutter, Ed [D-CO-7]	D · CO		Oct 26, 2017
Rep. Cohen, Steve [D-TN-9]	D · TN		Dec 21, 2017
Rep. Jackson Lee, Sheila [D-TX-18]	D · TX		Mar 1, 2018
Rep. Sires, Albio [D-NJ-8]	D · NJ		Mar 5, 2018
Rep. Keating, William R. [D-MA-9]	D · MA		May 15, 2018
Rep. Hastings, Alcee L. [D-FL-20]	D · FL		Jun 1, 2018
Rep. Chu, Judy [D-CA-27]	D · CA		Sep 4, 2018

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Energy and Commerce Committee	House	Referred to	Oct 27, 2017
Judiciary Committee	House	Referred to	Nov 14, 2017

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Crime and Law Enforcement

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
115 HR 2913	Related bill	Jun 16, 2017: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.
115 S 1370	Related bill	Jun 15, 2017: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Safer Communities Act of 2017

This bill provides grants to expand mental health crisis assistance programs, support comprehensive school mental health programs, and enhance mental health and substance abuse needs of prisoners.

The Department of Health and Human Services must expand research on violence associated with mental illness and substance abuse disorders.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention must expand the National Violent Death Reporting System to all 50 states and research the causes, mechanisms, prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of injuries from gun violence.

The bill states that no provision of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act prohibits physicians from asking patients about guns in their homes, speaking to a patient about gun safety, or reporting a patient's threat of violence.

It amends the federal criminal code to specify that the term "committed to a mental institution" applies to involuntary inpatient or outpatient treatment.

It amends the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to authorize state grants to remove firearms from individuals who pose a threat to themselves or others.

The Department of Justice must promptly notify law enforcement agencies when a prohibited person attempts to purchase a firearm.

The bill replaces statutory references to persons "adjudicated as a mental defective" with persons "adjudicated as ineligible due to disqualifying mental status."

It amends the NICS Improvement Amendments Act of 2007 to:

- establish procedures to restore firearm ownership rights after a mental health adjudication or commitment,
- require an annual report on record submissions due to domestic violence misdemeanor convictions,
- authorize state grants to improve the automation and transmittal of mental health and criminal history records, and
- require quarterly updates to federal agency record submissions.

The bill reauthorizes the National Criminal History Records Improvement Program through FY2023.

Actions Timeline

- **Nov 14, 2017:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, and Investigations.
- **Oct 27, 2017:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.
- **Oct 26, 2017:** Introduced in House
- **Oct 26, 2017:** Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.