

S 681

Deborah Sampson Act

Congress: 115 (2017–2019, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Armed Forces and National Security

Introduced: Mar 21, 2017

Current Status: Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Hearings held. Hearings printed: S.Hrg. 115-299.

Latest Action: Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Hearings held. Hearings printed: S.Hrg. 115-299. (May 17, 2017)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/senate-bill/681>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Tester, Jon [D-MT]

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

Cosponsors (29 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Baldwin, Tammy [D-WI]	D · WI		Mar 21, 2017
Sen. Blumenthal, Richard [D-CT]	D · CT		Mar 21, 2017
Sen. Boozman, John [R-AR]	R · AR		Mar 21, 2017
Sen. Gillibrand, Kirsten E. [D-NY]	D · NY		Mar 21, 2017
Sen. Hassan, Margaret Wood [D-NH]	D · NH		Mar 21, 2017
Sen. Kaine, Tim [D-VA]	D · VA		Mar 21, 2017
Sen. Murray, Patty [D-WA]	D · WA		Mar 21, 2017
Sen. Nelson, Bill [D-FL]	D · FL		Mar 21, 2017
Sen. Schatz, Brian [D-HI]	D · HI		Mar 21, 2017
Sen. Brown, Sherrod [D-OH]	D · OH		Mar 22, 2017
Sen. Shaheen, Jeanne [D-NH]	D · NH		Mar 22, 2017
Sen. Feinstein, Dianne [D-CA]	D · CA		Mar 23, 2017
Sen. Van Hollen, Chris [D-MD]	D · MD		Mar 23, 2017
Sen. Reed, Jack [D-RI]	D · RI		Mar 27, 2017
Sen. Franken, Al [D-MN]	D · MN		Mar 28, 2017
Sen. Booker, Cory A. [D-NJ]	D · NJ		Apr 3, 2017
Sen. Harris, Kamala D. [D-CA]	D · CA		Apr 24, 2017
Sen. Whitehouse, Sheldon [D-RI]	D · RI		May 1, 2017
Sen. Stabenow, Debbie [D-MI]	D · MI		Jun 6, 2017
Sen. Duckworth, Tammy [D-IL]	D · IL		Jun 28, 2017
Sen. Cortez Masto, Catherine [D-NV]	D · NV		Sep 7, 2017
Sen. Capito, Shelley Moore [R-WV]	R · WV		Jan 9, 2018
Sen. Smith, Tina [D-MN]	D · MN		Feb 5, 2018
Sen. Casey, Robert P., Jr. [D-PA]	D · PA		Mar 12, 2018
Sen. Merkley, Jeff [D-OR]	D · OR		Mar 13, 2018
Sen. Menendez, Robert [D-NJ]	D · NJ		Jun 7, 2018
Sen. Warren, Elizabeth [D-MA]	D · MA		Jul 10, 2018
Sen. Peters, Gary C. [D-MI]	D · MI		Jul 31, 2018
Sen. Cardin, Benjamin L. [D-MD]	D · MD		Nov 13, 2018

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Veterans' Affairs Committee	Senate	Hearings By (full committee)	May 17, 2017

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Armed Forces and National Security

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
115 HR 2452	Related bill	May 16, 2017: Referred to the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

Deborah Sampson Act

This bill directs the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to carry out a three-year pilot program to assess the feasibility of peer-to-peer assistance for women veterans (including those who are separating or newly separated from the Armed Forces), with emphasis placed on women who suffered service-related sexual trauma or who are at risk of becoming homeless.

Additionally, the VA shall:

- expand the women veterans call center to include a text messaging capability;
- establish a partnership with at least one nongovernmental organization to provide legal services to women veterans based upon their 10 highest unmet needs;
- retrofit VA medical facilities with fixtures, materials, and other outfitting measures to support the care of women veterans;
- ensure that each VA medical facility has at least one full-time or part-time women's health primary care provider;
- expand to 14 days VA post-delivery care services for women veterans who are receiving maternity care in a VA or VA-contracted facility;
- ensure that the women veteran manager program is supported at each VA medical center with a program manager and an ombudsman;
- collect, analyze, and publish data on each VA service or benefit program and disaggregate such data by sex and minority status; and
- publish an Internet website that serves as a centralized information source for women veterans' benefits and services.

The bill makes funds available for: (1) primary care and emergency care clinicians' participation in the women veterans health care mini-residency program, and (2) organizations that focus on providing assistance to women veterans and their families.

The bill: (1) provides for reintegration and readjustment services to veterans and family members in group retreat settings, and (2) expresses the sense of Congress that the VA's motto should be more inclusive.

Actions Timeline

- **May 17, 2017:** Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Hearings held. Hearings printed: S.Hrg. 115-299.
- **Mar 21, 2017:** Introduced in Senate
- **Mar 21, 2017:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.