

HR 856

Putting Our Veterans Back to Work Act of 2017

Congress: 115 (2017–2019, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Armed Forces and National Security

Introduced: Feb 3, 2017

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Research and Technology.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Research and Technology. (Apr 25, 2017)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/856>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Cohen, Steve [D-TN-9]

Party: Democratic • **State:** TN • **Chamber:** House

Cosponsors (13 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Del. Bordallo, Madeleine Z. [D-GU-At Large]	D · GU		Feb 3, 2017
Del. Norton, Eleanor Holmes [D-DC-At Large]	D · DC		Feb 3, 2017
Rep. Cartwright, Matt [D-PA-17]	D · PA		Feb 3, 2017
Rep. DelBene, Suzan K. [D-WA-1]	D · WA		Feb 3, 2017
Rep. Kelly, Robin L. [D-IL-2]	D · IL		Feb 3, 2017
Rep. McGovern, James P. [D-MA-2]	D · MA		Feb 3, 2017
Rep. Payne, Donald M., Jr. [D-NJ-10]	D · NJ		Feb 3, 2017
Rep. Slaughter, Louise McIntosh [D-NY-25]	D · NY		Feb 3, 2017
Rep. Welch, Peter [D-VT-At Large]	D · VT		Feb 3, 2017
Rep. Pocan, Mark [D-WI-2]	D · WI		Mar 13, 2017
Rep. Engel, Eliot L. [D-NY-16]	D · NY		May 2, 2017
Rep. Norcross, Donald [D-NJ-1]	D · NJ		May 17, 2017
Rep. Larsen, Rick [D-WA-2]	D · WA		Jun 6, 2018

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Armed Services Committee	House	Referred to	Feb 24, 2017
Judiciary Committee	House	Referred to	Feb 3, 2017
Oversight and Government Reform Committee	House	Referred To	Feb 3, 2017
Science, Space, and Technology Committee	House	Referred to	Apr 25, 2017
Veterans' Affairs Committee	House	Referred to	Feb 6, 2017

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Armed Forces and National Security

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Summary (as of Feb 3, 2017)

Putting Our Veterans Back to Work Act of 2017

This bill amends the: (1) VOW to Hire Heroes Act of 2011 to extend through 2020 the veterans retraining assistance program, and (2) Wounded Warrior Act to extend through 2020 the authority of the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to provide the same rehabilitation and vocational benefits to members of the Armed Forces with severe injuries or illnesses as are provided to veterans.

The bill extends through: (1) March 31, 2020, additional VA rehabilitation programs for certain disabled veterans who have completed a VA rehabilitation program and have exhausted their rights to state unemployment benefits; and (2) FY2021 the collaborative veterans' training, mentoring, and placement program.

The VA shall develop a single, unified federal web-based employment portal for veterans to access information on federal programs and activities concerning veterans employment, unemployment, and training.

The bill directs the: (1) Department of Homeland Security to award grants to hire veterans as firefighters, and (2) Department of Justice to award grants to hire veterans as law enforcement officers.

The head of each executive and defense agency shall consider favorably, as an evaluation factor in federal solicitations for civilian or defense contracts and task or delivery orders valued at or above \$25 million, the employment by a prospective contractor of veterans constituting at least 5% of the contractor's workforce.

Actions Timeline

- **Apr 25, 2017:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Research and Technology.
- **Feb 24, 2017:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Military Personnel.
- **Feb 6, 2017:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity.
- **Feb 3, 2017:** Introduced in House
- **Feb 3, 2017:** Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR E140)
- **Feb 3, 2017:** Referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, and in addition to the Committees on Armed Services, Oversight and Government Reform, the Judiciary, and Science, Space, and Technology, 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.
- **Feb 3, 2017:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, and Investigations.