

S 946

Veterans Treatment Court Improvement Act of 2018

Congress: 115 (2017–2019, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Armed Forces and National Security

Introduced: Apr 26, 2017

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health. (Feb 20, 2018)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/senate-bill/946>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Flake, Jeff [R-AZ]

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

Cosponsors (18 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Cornyn, John [R-TX]	R · TX		Apr 26, 2017
Sen. Hatch, Orrin G. [R-UT]	R · UT		Apr 26, 2017
Sen. Lee, Mike [R-UT]	R · UT		Apr 26, 2017
Sen. Manchin, Joe, III [D-WV]	D · WV		Apr 26, 2017
Sen. McCain, John [R-AZ]	R · AZ		Apr 26, 2017
Sen. Murkowski, Lisa [R-AK]	R · AK		Apr 26, 2017
Sen. Tester, Jon [D-MT]	D · MT		Apr 26, 2017
Sen. Tillis, Thomas [R-NC]	R · NC		Apr 26, 2017
Sen. Donnelly, Joe [D-IN]	D · IN		Sep 14, 2017
Sen. Warren, Elizabeth [D-MA]	D · MA		Sep 26, 2017
Sen. King, Angus S., Jr. [I-ME]	I · ME		Sep 28, 2017
Sen. Coons, Christopher A. [D-DE]	D · DE		Oct 4, 2017
Sen. Baldwin, Tammy [D-WI]	D · WI		Dec 1, 2017
Sen. Hassan, Margaret Wood [D-NH]	D · NH		Dec 14, 2017
Sen. Shaheen, Jeanne [D-NH]	D · NH		Dec 14, 2017
Sen. Crapo, Mike [R-ID]	R · ID		Dec 21, 2017
Sen. Peters, Gary C. [D-MI]	D · MI		Feb 15, 2018
Sen. Daines, Steve [R-MT]	R · MT		Aug 20, 2018

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Veterans' Affairs Committee	Senate	Discharged From	Feb 15, 2018
Veterans' Affairs Committee	House	Referred to	Feb 20, 2018

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Armed Forces and National Security

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
115 HR 2147	Identical bill	Sep 17, 2018: Became Public Law No: 115-240.

Summary (as of Apr 26, 2017)

Veterans Treatment Court Improvement Act of 2017

This bill requires the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to hire at least 50 Veterans Justice Outreach Specialists, place each one at an eligible VA medical center, and ensure that each one serves as part of a justice team in a veterans treatment court or other veteran-focused court.

An eligible VA medical center is one that:

- complies with all VA guidelines and regulations for placement of a specialist;
- works with a veteran with active, ongoing, or recent contact with some component of a local criminal justice system;
- maintains an affiliation with one or more veterans treatment courts or other veteran-focused courts; and
- either routinely provides specialists, or establishes a VA-approved plan to provide specialists, to serve as part of a justice team in such a court.

The VA shall prioritize the placement of specialists at eligible VA medical centers that have an affiliation with such a court that: (1) was established after the date of this bill's enactment, or (2) was established before such date and is not fully staffed with specialists.

Actions Timeline

- **Feb 20, 2018:** Received in the House.
- **Feb 20, 2018:** Referred to the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs.
- **Feb 20, 2018:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.
- **Feb 16, 2018:** Message on Senate action sent to the House.
- **Feb 15, 2018:** Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs discharged by Unanimous Consent.
- **Feb 15, 2018:** Measure laid before Senate by unanimous consent. (consideration: CR S1190)
- **Feb 15, 2018:** Passed/agreed to in Senate: Passed Senate with an amendment by Unanimous Consent.
- **Feb 15, 2018:** Passed Senate with an amendment by Unanimous Consent.
- **Jul 11, 2017:** Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Hearings held. Hearings printed: S.Hrg. 115-320.
- **Apr 26, 2017:** Introduced in Senate
- **Apr 26, 2017:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs. (Sponsor introductory remarks on measure: CR S2555-2556)