

S 1312

United States Territorial Relief Act of 2019

Congress: 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Government Operations and Politics

Introduced: May 2, 2019

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. (May 2, 2019)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/senate-bill/1312>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Warren, Elizabeth [D-MA]

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

Cosponsors (4 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Gillibrand, Kirsten E. [D-NY]	D · NY		May 2, 2019
Sen. Harris, Kamala D. [D-CA]	D · CA		May 2, 2019
Sen. Markey, Edward J. [D-MA]	D · MA		May 2, 2019
Sen. Sanders, Bernard [I-VT]	I · VT		May 2, 2019

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Energy and Natural Resources Committee	Senate	Referred To	May 2, 2019

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Government Operations and Politics

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
116 HR 2526	Identical bill	May 3, 2019: Referred to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committees on the Judiciary, and the Budget, 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.

United States Territorial Relief Act of 2019

This bill establishes a process under which Puerto Rico and other U.S. territories may terminate certain debts if they meet eligibility criteria.

The bill allows territories to terminate their public, unsecured debt if they meet two of three criteria:

- the population of the territory has decreased by more than 5% over 10 years,
- the territory received major federal disaster assistance, or
- the territory's per capita debt exceeds \$15,000.

If Puerto Rico discharges its debt under this process, the bill provides funding that a special master must allocate to certain creditors whose debts were discharged.

The bill also establishes a Puerto Rico Public Credit Comprehensive Audit Commission.

Actions Timeline

- **May 2, 2019:** Introduced in Senate
- **May 2, 2019:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.