

HR 1893

Next Step Act of 2019

Congress: 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Crime and Law Enforcement

Introduced: Mar 26, 2019

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

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security. (Apr 8, 2019)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/1893>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Watson Coleman, Bonnie [D-NJ-12]

Party: Democratic • State: NJ • Chamber: House

Cosponsors (4 total)

| Cosponsor | Party / State | Role | Date Joined |
|---|---------------|------|--------------|
| Rep. Barragan, Nanette Diaz [D-CA-44] | D · CA | | Apr 1, 2019 |
| Del. Norton, Eleanor Holmes [D-DC-At Large] | D · DC | | Apr 12, 2019 |
| Rep. Castor, Kathy [D-FL-14] | D · FL | | Jun 4, 2020 |
| Rep. Engel, Eliot L. [D-NY-16] | D · NY | | Jun 4, 2020 |

Committee Activity

| Committee | Chamber | Activity | Date |
|---|---------|-------------|--------------|
| Agriculture Committee | House | Referred to | Apr 3, 2019 |
| Armed Services Committee | House | Referred To | Mar 26, 2019 |
| Committee on House Administration | House | Referred To | Mar 26, 2019 |
| Education and Workforce Committee | House | Referred To | Mar 26, 2019 |
| Energy and Commerce Committee | House | Referred to | Mar 27, 2019 |
| Financial Services Committee | House | Referred To | Mar 26, 2019 |
| Judiciary Committee | House | Referred to | Apr 8, 2019 |
| Natural Resources Committee | House | Referred to | Mar 28, 2019 |
| Oversight and Government Reform Committee | House | Referred To | Mar 26, 2019 |
| Ways and Means Committee | House | Referred To | Mar 26, 2019 |

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Crime and Law Enforcement

Related Bills

| Bill | Relationship | Last Action |
|-----------------------------|----------------|--|
| 116 HR 8941 | Related bill | Dec 10, 2020: Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary. |
| 116 HR 7270 | Related bill | Jun 18, 2020: Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary. |
| 116 HR 7089 | Related bill | Jun 4, 2020: Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary. |
| 116 HR 1076 | Related bill | Jan 24, 2020: Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 301. |
| 116 S 2850 | Related bill | Nov 13, 2019: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. |
| 116 HR 4339 | Related bill | Sep 25, 2019: Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security. |
| 116 S 2355 | Related bill | Jul 31, 2019: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. |
| 116 HR 2865 | Related bill | Jun 26, 2019: Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security. |
| 116 S 1557 | Related bill | May 21, 2019: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. |
| 116 HR 2410 | Related bill | May 20, 2019: Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security. |
| 116 HR 2232 | Related bill | May 15, 2019: Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security. |
| 116 HR 1951 | Related bill | May 3, 2019: Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security. |
| 116 S 387 | Related bill | Apr 10, 2019: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 69. |
| 116 S 1068 | Related bill | Apr 9, 2019: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. |
| 116 S 1080 | Related bill | Apr 9, 2019: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. |
| 116 HR 1456 | Related bill | Apr 8, 2019: Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security. |
| 116 S 697 | Identical bill | Mar 7, 2019: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. |
| 116 S 597 | Related bill | Feb 28, 2019: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. |
| 116 HR 196 | Related bill | Jan 3, 2019: Referred to the Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights, and Civil Liberties. |

Next Step Act of 2019

This bill revises sentencing guidelines, addresses prison conditions and prisoner reentry, and addresses law enforcement training.

First, it eliminates increased and mandatory minimum penalties for drug offenses involving mixtures or substances which contain cocaine base (i.e., crack cocaine).

It decriminalizes marijuana by (1) removing marijuana from the list of scheduled substances; (2) eliminating criminal penalties for an individual who imports, exports, manufactures, distributes, or possesses with intent to distribute marijuana; and (3) expunging convictions for marijuana use or possession.

It reduces the mandatory minimum prison term for defendants who manufacture, distribute, or possess with intent to distribute a controlled substance.

Additionally, the bill

- requires the Bureau of Prisons (BOP) to provide videoconferencing free of charge to prisoners;
- prohibits federal agencies from requesting that applicants disclose their criminal history before receiving a conditional offer of employment;
- restricts the use of criminal records to disqualify individuals from employment, occupational licensing, or occupational certification;
- creates a mechanism by which certain eligible individuals may file a petition to seal federal criminal records for certain nonviolent offenses;
- reinstates the right to vote in federal elections for persons convicted of criminal offenses;
- revises requirements for the BOP to help prisoners obtain identification documents prior to their release;
- establishes and revises certain grants;
- requires a state or tribe that receives certain funding to report on use-of-force incidents involving a law enforcement officer and a civilian; and
- prohibits racial profiling by law enforcement.

Actions Timeline

- **Apr 8, 2019:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security.
- **Apr 3, 2019:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Nutrition, Oversight, and Department Operations.
- **Mar 28, 2019:** Referred to the Subcommittee for Indigenous Peoples of the United States.
- **Mar 27, 2019:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.
- **Mar 26, 2019:** Introduced in House
- **Mar 26, 2019:** Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committees on Energy and Commerce, Financial Services, Agriculture, Natural Resources, Oversight and Reform, House Administration, Armed Services, Education and Labor, and Ways and Means, 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.