

## S 2850

Smarter Sentencing Act of 2019

**Congress:** 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

**Chamber:** Senate

**Policy Area:** Crime and Law Enforcement

**Introduced:** Nov 13, 2019

**Current Status:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

**Latest Action:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. (Nov 13, 2019)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/senate-bill/2850>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Sen. Lee, Mike [R-UT]

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

### Cosponsors (12 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Baldwin, Tammy [D-WI]	D · WI		Nov 13, 2019
Sen. Blumenthal, Richard [D-CT]	D · CT		Nov 13, 2019
Sen. Booker, Cory A. [D-NJ]	D · NJ		Nov 13, 2019
Sen. Durbin, Richard J. [D-IL]	D · IL		Nov 13, 2019
Sen. Harris, Kamala D. [D-CA]	D · CA		Nov 13, 2019
Sen. Kaine, Tim [D-VA]	D · VA		Nov 13, 2019
Sen. King, Angus S., Jr. [I-ME]	I · ME		Nov 13, 2019
Sen. Leahy, Patrick J. [D-VT]	D · VT		Nov 13, 2019
Sen. Warren, Elizabeth [D-MA]	D · MA		Nov 13, 2019
Sen. Whitehouse, Sheldon [D-RI]	D · RI		Nov 13, 2019
Sen. Wyden, Ron [D-OR]	D · OR		Nov 13, 2019
Sen. Sanders, Bernard [I-VT]	I · VT		Nov 14, 2019

### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Judiciary Committee	Senate	Referred To	Nov 13, 2019

### Subjects & Policy Tags

**Policy Area:**

Crime and Law Enforcement

## Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
116 HR 7270	Related bill	<b>Jun 18, 2020:</b> Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary.
116 HR 1893	Related bill	<b>Apr 8, 2019:</b> Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security.
116 S 697	Related bill	<b>Mar 7, 2019:</b> Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

## Summary (as of Nov 13, 2019)

### Smarter Sentencing Act of 2019

This bill modifies mandatory minimum prison terms for defendants who commit certain drug-related offenses.

First, the bill reduces the mandatory minimum prison term for defendants who manufacture, distribute, or possess with intent to distribute a controlled substance. Specifically, it reduces mandatory minimums

- from 10 years to 5 years for a first-time high-level offense (e.g., one kilogram or more of heroin),
- from 15 years to 10 years for a high-level offense after one prior felony drug offense,
- from 5 years to 2 years for a first-time low-level offense (e.g., 100 to 999 grams of heroin), and
- from 10 years to 5 years for a low-level offense after one prior felony drug offense.

Additionally, the bill modifies the application of mandatory minimum prison terms for certain defendants who import or export a controlled substance. Specifically, it

- makes existing mandatory minimums inapplicable to a defendant who functions as a courier; and
- establishes new, shorter mandatory minimum prison terms for a courier.

The Department of Justice must report on and publish all federal criminal statutory offenses. Specified federal agencies, departments, and entities must report on and publish criminal regulatory offenses that they enforce.

### Actions Timeline

- **Nov 13, 2019:** Introduced in Senate
- **Nov 13, 2019:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.