

HR 2959

Freedom from Assault Weapons Act

Congress: 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Crime and Law Enforcement

Introduced: May 23, 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. (Jun 26, 2019)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/2959>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Swalwell, Eric [D-CA-15]

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

Cosponsors (3 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Del. Norton, Eleanor Holmes [D-DC-At Large]	D · DC		Sep 10, 2019
Rep. Hastings, Alcee L. [D-FL-20]	D · FL		Sep 10, 2019
Rep. Payne, Donald M., Jr. [D-NJ-10]	D · NJ		Sep 10, 2019

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Judiciary Committee	House	Referred to	Jun 26, 2019

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Crime and Law Enforcement

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
116 HR 5717	Related bill	Mar 10, 2020: Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security.
116 S 3254	Related bill	Feb 5, 2020: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.
116 HR 1296	Related bill	Feb 15, 2019: Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary.
116 S 66	Related bill	Jan 9, 2019: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. (Sponsor introductory remarks on measure: CR S103-104)

Freedom from Assault Weapons Act

This bill makes it a crime to knowingly import, sell, manufacture, transfer, or possess a semiautomatic assault weapon (SAW) or large capacity ammunition feeding device (LCAF).

The prohibition does not apply to a firearm that is (1) manually operated by bolt, pump, lever, or slide action; (2) permanently inoperable; (3) an antique; or (4) a rifle or shotgun specifically identified by make and model.

The bill also exempts from the prohibition the following, with respect to a SAW or LCAF:

- importation, sale, manufacture, transfer, or possession related to certain law enforcement efforts, or authorized tests or experiments;
- importation, sale, transfer, or possession related to securing nuclear materials; and
- possession by a retired law enforcement officer.

Further, the bill exempts from the prohibition the possession or storage of a SAW at a shooting range, shooting gallery, or hunting club.

Finally, the bill requires the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives to operate a buy-back program to purchase and destroy SAWs and LCAF.

Actions Timeline

- **Jun 26, 2019:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security.
- **May 23, 2019:** Introduced in House
- **May 23, 2019:** Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary.