

S 3607

Safeguarding America's First Responders Act of 2020

Congress: 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Crime and Law Enforcement

Introduced: May 5, 2020

Current Status: Became Public Law No: 116-157.

Latest Action: Became Public Law No: 116-157. (Aug 14, 2020)

Law: 116-157 (Enacted Aug 14, 2020)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/senate-bill/3607>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Grassley, Chuck [R-IA]

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

Cosponsors (22 total)

| Cosponsor | Party / State | Role | Date Joined |
|------------------------------------|---------------|------|--------------|
| Sen. Blumenthal, Richard [D-CT] | D · CT | | May 5, 2020 |
| Sen. Booker, Cory A. [D-NJ] | D · NJ | | May 5, 2020 |
| Sen. Collins, Susan M. [R-ME] | R · ME | | May 5, 2020 |
| Sen. Coons, Christopher A. [D-DE] | D · DE | | May 5, 2020 |
| Sen. Cruz, Ted [R-TX] | R · TX | | May 5, 2020 |
| Sen. Daines, Steve [R-MT] | R · MT | | May 5, 2020 |
| Sen. Feinstein, Dianne [D-CA] | D · CA | | May 5, 2020 |
| Sen. Gillibrand, Kirsten E. [D-NY] | D · NY | | May 5, 2020 |
| Sen. Loeffler, Kelly [R-GA] | R · GA | | May 5, 2020 |
| Sen. Menendez, Robert [D-NJ] | D · NJ | | May 5, 2020 |
| Sen. Moran, Jerry [R-KS] | R · KS | | May 5, 2020 |
| Sen. Schumer, Charles E. [D-NY] | D · NY | | May 5, 2020 |
| Sen. Scott, Rick [R-FL] | R · FL | | May 5, 2020 |
| Sen. Tillis, Thomas [R-NC] | R · NC | | May 5, 2020 |
| Sen. Tester, Jon [D-MT] | D · MT | | May 7, 2020 |
| Sen. Capito, Shelley Moore [R-WV] | R · WV | | May 12, 2020 |
| Sen. Cramer, Kevin [R-ND] | R · ND | | May 12, 2020 |
| Sen. Hassan, Margaret Wood [D-NH] | D · NH | | May 12, 2020 |
| Sen. McSally, Martha [R-AZ] | R · AZ | | May 12, 2020 |
| Sen. Peters, Gary C. [D-MI] | D · MI | | May 12, 2020 |
| Sen. Shaheen, Jeanne [D-NH] | D · NH | | May 12, 2020 |
| Sen. Stabenow, Debbie [D-MI] | D · MI | | May 12, 2020 |

Committee Activity

| Committee | Chamber | Activity | Date |
|---------------------|---------|-----------------|--------------|
| Judiciary Committee | Senate | Discharged From | May 14, 2020 |

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Crime and Law Enforcement

Related Bills

| Bill | Relationship | Last Action |
|-------------|----------------|--|
| 116 HR 7031 | Identical bill | May 27, 2020: Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary. |

Summary (as of Aug 14, 2020)

Safeguarding America's First Responders Act of 2020

This bill extends death and disability benefits under the Public Safety Officers' Benefits Program (PSOB) to public safety officers (e.g., law enforcement officers) and survivors of public safety officers who die or become injured as a result of COVID-19 (i.e., coronavirus disease 2019). The PSOB program provides death, disability, and education benefits to public safety officers and survivors of public safety officers who are killed or injured in the line of duty.

For purposes of death benefits, this bill creates a general presumption that a public safety officer who dies from COVID-19 or related complications sustained a personal injury in the line of duty.

For purposes of disability benefits, the bill creates a general presumption that COVID-19 or related complications suffered by a public safety officer constitutes a personal injury sustained in the line of duty.

Actions Timeline

- **Aug 14, 2020:** Signed by President.
- **Aug 14, 2020:** Became Public Law No: 116-157.
- **Aug 4, 2020:** Presented to President.
- **Jul 20, 2020:** Mr. Cicilline asked unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's table and consider.
- **Jul 20, 2020:** Considered by unanimous consent. (consideration: CR H3109-3110)
- **Jul 20, 2020:** Passed/agreed to in House: On passage Passed without objection.
- **Jul 20, 2020:** On passage Passed without objection. (text: CR H3109-3110)
- **Jul 20, 2020:** Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
- **May 15, 2020:** Message on Senate action sent to the House.
- **May 15, 2020:** Received in the House.
- **May 15, 2020:** Held at the desk.
- **May 14, 2020:** Senate Committee on the Judiciary discharged by Unanimous Consent.
- **May 14, 2020:** Senate Committee on the Judiciary discharged by Unanimous Consent. (consideration: CR S2464)
- **May 14, 2020:** Measure laid before Senate by unanimous consent.
- **May 14, 2020:** Passed/agreed to in Senate: Passed Senate with amendments by Voice Vote.(text: CR S2464)
- **May 14, 2020:** Passed Senate with amendments by Voice Vote. (text: CR S2464)
- **May 5, 2020:** Introduced in Senate
- **May 5, 2020:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.