

## S 42

Background Check Expansion Act

**Congress:** 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

**Chamber:** Senate

**Policy Area:** Crime and Law Enforcement

**Introduced:** Jan 8, 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. (Jan 8, 2019)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/senate-bill/42>

### Sponsor

---

**Name:** Sen. Murphy, Christopher [D-CT]

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

**Cosponsors** (41 total)

<b>Cosponsor</b>	<b>Party / State</b>	<b>Role</b>	<b>Date Joined</b>
Sen. Baldwin, Tammy [D-WI]	D · WI		Jan 8, 2019
Sen. Bennet, Michael F. [D-CO]	D · CO		Jan 8, 2019
Sen. Blumenthal, Richard [D-CT]	D · CT		Jan 8, 2019
Sen. Booker, Cory A. [D-NJ]	D · NJ		Jan 8, 2019
Sen. Brown, Sherrod [D-OH]	D · OH		Jan 8, 2019
Sen. Cantwell, Maria [D-WA]	D · WA		Jan 8, 2019
Sen. Cardin, Benjamin L. [D-MD]	D · MD		Jan 8, 2019
Sen. Carper, Thomas R. [D-DE]	D · DE		Jan 8, 2019
Sen. Casey, Robert P., Jr. [D-PA]	D · PA		Jan 8, 2019
Sen. Coons, Christopher A. [D-DE]	D · DE		Jan 8, 2019
Sen. Cortez Masto, Catherine [D-NV]	D · NV		Jan 8, 2019
Sen. Duckworth, Tammy [D-IL]	D · IL		Jan 8, 2019
Sen. Durbin, Richard J. [D-IL]	D · IL		Jan 8, 2019
Sen. Feinstein, Dianne [D-CA]	D · CA		Jan 8, 2019
Sen. Gillibrand, Kirsten E. [D-NY]	D · NY		Jan 8, 2019
Sen. Harris, Kamala D. [D-CA]	D · CA		Jan 8, 2019
Sen. Hassan, Margaret Wood [D-NH]	D · NH		Jan 8, 2019
Sen. Heinrich, Martin [D-NM]	D · NM		Jan 8, 2019
Sen. Hirono, Mazie K. [D-HI]	D · HI		Jan 8, 2019
Sen. Kaine, Tim [D-VA]	D · VA		Jan 8, 2019
Sen. Klobuchar, Amy [D-MN]	D · MN		Jan 8, 2019
Sen. Leahy, Patrick J. [D-VT]	D · VT		Jan 8, 2019
Sen. Markey, Edward J. [D-MA]	D · MA		Jan 8, 2019
Sen. Menendez, Robert [D-NJ]	D · NJ		Jan 8, 2019
Sen. Merkley, Jeff [D-OR]	D · OR		Jan 8, 2019
Sen. Murray, Patty [D-WA]	D · WA		Jan 8, 2019
Sen. Peters, Gary C. [D-MI]	D · MI		Jan 8, 2019
Sen. Reed, Jack [D-RI]	D · RI		Jan 8, 2019
Sen. Rosen, Jacky [D-NV]	D · NV		Jan 8, 2019
Sen. Sanders, Bernard [I-VT]	I · VT		Jan 8, 2019
Sen. Schatz, Brian [D-HI]	D · HI		Jan 8, 2019
Sen. Schumer, Charles E. [D-NY]	D · NY		Jan 8, 2019
Sen. Shaheen, Jeanne [D-NH]	D · NH		Jan 8, 2019
Sen. Smith, Tina [D-MN]	D · MN		Jan 8, 2019
Sen. Stabenow, Debbie [D-MI]	D · MI		Jan 8, 2019
Sen. Udall, Tom [D-NM]	D · NM		Jan 8, 2019
Sen. Van Hollen, Chris [D-MD]	D · MD		Jan 8, 2019
Sen. Warner, Mark R. [D-VA]	D · VA		Jan 8, 2019
Sen. Warren, Elizabeth [D-MA]	D · MA		Jan 8, 2019
Sen. Whitehouse, Sheldon [D-RI]	D · RI		Jan 8, 2019
Sen. Wyden, Ron [D-OR]	D · OR		Jan 8, 2019

## Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Judiciary Committee	Senate	Referred To	Jan 8, 2019

## Subjects & Policy Tags

### Policy Area:

Crime and Law Enforcement

## Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
116 S 4271	Related bill	<b>Jul 22, 2020:</b> Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.
116 HR 6318	Related bill	<b>Mar 23, 2020:</b> Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committees on Education and Labor, Financial Services, Ways and Means, Small Business, Oversight and Reform, Agriculture, Rules, and Energy and Commerce, 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.
116 HR 5717	Related bill	<b>Mar 10, 2020:</b> Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security.
116 S 3254	Related bill	<b>Feb 5, 2020:</b> Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.
116 S 1924	Related bill	<b>Jun 20, 2019:</b> Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.
116 HR 1705	Related bill	<b>Apr 12, 2019:</b> Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security.
116 HR 8	Related bill	<b>Mar 4, 2019:</b> Read the second time. Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 29.

## Summary (as of Jan 8, 2019)

### Background Check Expansion Act

This bill establishes new background check requirements for firearm transfers between private parties (i.e., unlicensed individuals).

Specifically, it prohibits a firearm transfer between private parties unless a licensed gun dealer, manufacturer, or importer first takes possession of the firearm to conduct a background check.

The prohibition does not apply to certain firearm transfers, such as a gift between spouses in good faith.

### Actions Timeline

- **Jan 8, 2019:** Introduced in Senate
- **Jan 8, 2019:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

# LegiList

CONGRESS, MADE CLEAR.

## Search Every Federal Bill, Law, and Vote

LegiList is the fastest way to research Congress. Track any bill from introduction to enactment, see how every legislator voted, follow committee activity, and read the full text of every bill — all in one place, always up to date.

[legilist.com](https://legilist.com)

## Free Course: Learn How Congress Actually Works

LegiList Learn is a free, self-paced course that walks through the entire legislative process — from drafting a bill to a presidential signature. Seven modules, plain language, no politics. Earn a certificate when you finish.

[legilist.com/learn](https://legilist.com/learn)

## Developer API: Build Apps on Legislative Data

The LegiList API gives developers direct access to bills, votes, legislators, committees, and more. Start free with 1,000 requests per day — no credit card required. Upgrade to Pro when you need to scale.

[legilist.com/api](https://legilist.com/api)

Public data belongs to the public. — [legilist.com](https://legilist.com)