

S 4568

Forensic Science Research and Standards Act of 2020

Congress: 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Science, Technology, Communications

Introduced: Sep 14, 2020

Current Status: Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. Ordered to be reported with an amendment favorab

Latest Action: Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. Ordered to be reported with an amendment favorably. (Sep 16, 2020)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/senate-bill/4568>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Wicker, Roger F. [R-MS]

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

Cosponsors (1 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Cantwell, Maria [D-WA]	D · WA		Sep 14, 2020

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee	Senate	Markup By	Sep 16, 2020

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Science, Technology, Communications

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
116 HR 8239	Related bill	Sep 14, 2020: Referred to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, 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.

Forensic Science Research and Standards Act of 2020

This bill establishes various entities to develop and distribute forensic science standards.

The Office of Science and Technology Policy shall establish an interagency working group to develop a research strategy for forensic science and publish such strategy once every two years.

The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) shall establish the Organization of Scientific Area Committees for Forensic Science to facilitate the development of forensic science standards. NIST shall establish scientific area committees to carry out the work of the organization and a Forensic Science Standards Board to oversee the operation of the organization and its committees.

NIST shall conduct foundational studies to (1) identify and document the technical merit and validity of select forensic science methods, practices, and disciplines; and (2) identify opportunities for advancements in forensic methods, practices, and disciplines through additional research and improvements to practice.

Actions Timeline

- **Sep 16, 2020:** Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. Ordered to be reported with an amendment favorably.
- **Sep 14, 2020:** Introduced in Senate
- **Sep 14, 2020:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.