

## HR 8084

Lethal Means Safety Training Act

**Congress:** 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

**Chamber:** House

**Policy Area:** Armed Forces and National Security

**Introduced:** Aug 21, 2020

**Current Status:** Committee Hearings Held.

**Latest Action:** Committee Hearings Held. (Sep 10, 2020)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/8084>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Rep. Underwood, Lauren [D-IL-14]

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

### Cosponsors (2 total)

| Cosponsor                       | Party / State | Role | Date Joined  |
|---------------------------------|---------------|------|--------------|
| Rep. Brownley, Julia [D-CA-26]  | D · CA        |      | Aug 21, 2020 |
| Rep. Rice, Kathleen M. [D-NY-4] | D · NY        |      | Aug 21, 2020 |

### Committee Activity

| Committee                   | Chamber | Activity                     | Date         |
|-----------------------------|---------|------------------------------|--------------|
| Veterans' Affairs Committee | House   | Hearings By (full committee) | Sep 10, 2020 |

### Subjects & Policy Tags

#### Policy Area:

Armed Forces and National Security

### Related Bills

*No related bills are listed.*

## **Lethal Means Safety Training Act**

This bill requires the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to update its Lethal Means Safety and Suicide Prevention training course at least once a year to ensure it is culturally appropriate and uses best practices identified by subject matter experts (e.g., veterans service organizations).

The bill requires certain VA employees and care providers to take the most recently updated version of the training course within 90 days after the person is hired, agrees to furnish care, or receives support and at least annually thereafter. Specifically, the bill requires the following categories of VA employees or care providers to take the training course:

- employees of the Veterans Health Administration or Veterans Benefits Administration who regularly interact with veterans,
- compensation and pension examiners,
- employees of Veterans Centers or vocational rehabilitation facilities,
- employees of Veterans Community Care Providers who provide care to veterans, and
- family caregivers receiving support under the Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers.

The VA must publish the training course on a publicly available VA website. Additionally, the VA must publish a report on its website that includes the percentage of individuals in each category who have completed such training.

## **Actions Timeline**

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- **Sep 10, 2020:** Committee Hearings Held.
- **Aug 21, 2020:** Introduced in House
- **Aug 21, 2020:** Referred to the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs.