

HR 8449

Veterans' Sentinel Act

Congress: 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Armed Forces and National Security

Introduced: Sep 30, 2020

Current Status: Referred to the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

Latest Action: Referred to the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs. (Sep 30, 2020)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/8449>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Crow, Jason [D-CO-6]

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

Cosponsors (16 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Crist, Charlie [D-FL-13]	D · FL		Sep 30, 2020
Rep. DesJarlais, Scott [R-TN-4]	R · TN		Sep 30, 2020
Rep. Kelly, Trent [R-MS-1]	R · MS		Sep 30, 2020
Rep. Omar, Ilhan [D-MN-5]	D · MN		Sep 30, 2020
Rep. Lynch, Stephen F. [D-MA-8]	D · MA		Oct 9, 2020
Rep. Thompson, Bennie G. [D-MS-2]	D · MS		Oct 9, 2020
Rep. Fitzpatrick, Brian K. [R-PA-1]	R · PA		Oct 13, 2020
Rep. Harder, Josh [D-CA-10]	D · CA		Oct 13, 2020
Rep. Cárdenas, Tony [D-CA-29]	D · CA		Oct 16, 2020
Rep. Fudge, Marcia L. [D-OH-11]	D · OH		Oct 16, 2020
Rep. Green, Al [D-TX-9]	D · TX		Oct 16, 2020
Rep. Panetta, Jimmy [D-CA-20]	D · CA		Oct 16, 2020
Del. San Nicolas, Michael F. Q. [D-GU-At Large]	D · GU		Oct 30, 2020
Rep. Jackson Lee, Sheila [D-TX-18]	D · TX		Oct 30, 2020
Rep. Joyce, David P. [R-OH-14]	R · OH		Oct 30, 2020
Rep. Carson, Andre [D-IN-7]	D · IN		Nov 12, 2020

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Veterans' Affairs Committee	House	Referred To	Sep 30, 2020

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Armed Forces and National Security

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Summary (as of Sep 30, 2020)

Veterans' Sentinel Act

This bill requires the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to implement a pilot program establishing a working group in the Office of Mental Health and Suicide Prevention to collect and analyze data regarding on-campus (i.e., on VA property) suicides and on-campus attempted suicides by veterans. The working group is authorized to implement improvements to the process by which the VA collects data related to on-campus suicides to unify the disparate sources of such data.

The VA must annually brief Congress regarding the progress and findings of the working group.

The bill requires the VA to (1) annually evaluate the statistical trends of suicides and attempted suicides by veterans that occur on VA property, and (2) determine recommendations for preventing such suicides and attempted suicides.

Finally, the bill requires the Government Accountability Office to submit a report on (1) the actions the Office of Mental Health and Suicide Prevention has taken to meet the priority objective of the VA with respect to preventing veteran suicide, (2) the challenges the office has faced in making such actions, and (3) recommendations for improvements.

Actions Timeline

- **Sep 30, 2020:** Introduced in House
- **Sep 30, 2020:** Referred to the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs.