

HR 8639

Mental Health Justice Act of 2020

Congress: 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Health

Introduced: Oct 20, 2020

Current Status: Referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary,

Latest Action: Referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, 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. (Oct 20, 2020)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/8639>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Porter, Katie [D-CA-45]

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

Cosponsors (41 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Del. Norton, Eleanor Holmes [D-DC-At Large]	D · DC		Oct 20, 2020
Rep. Aguilar, Pete [D-CA-31]	D · CA		Oct 20, 2020
Rep. Beatty, Joyce [D-OH-3]	D · OH		Oct 20, 2020
Rep. Cárdenas, Tony [D-CA-29]	D · CA		Oct 20, 2020
Rep. Carson, Andre [D-IN-7]	D · IN		Oct 20, 2020
Rep. Chu, Judy [D-CA-27]	D · CA		Oct 20, 2020
Rep. Clark, Katherine M. [D-MA-5]	D · MA		Oct 20, 2020
Rep. Grijalva, Raúl M. [D-AZ-3]	D · AZ		Oct 20, 2020
Rep. Haaland, Debra A. [D-NM-1]	D · NM		Oct 20, 2020
Rep. Hastings, Alcee L. [D-FL-20]	D · FL		Oct 20, 2020
Rep. Jayapal, Pramila [D-WA-7]	D · WA		Oct 20, 2020
Rep. Khanna, Ro [D-CA-17]	D · CA		Oct 20, 2020
Rep. Lee, Barbara [D-CA-13]	D · CA		Oct 20, 2020
Rep. Maloney, Carolyn B. [D-NY-12]	D · NY		Oct 20, 2020
Rep. Matsui, Doris O. [D-CA-6]	D · CA		Oct 20, 2020
Rep. Moore, Gwen [D-WI-4]	D · WI		Oct 20, 2020
Rep. Morelle, Joseph D. [D-NY-25]	D · NY		Oct 20, 2020
Rep. Napolitano, Grace F. [D-CA-32]	D · CA		Oct 20, 2020
Rep. Pocan, Mark [D-WI-2]	D · WI		Oct 20, 2020
Rep. Pressley, Ayanna [D-MA-7]	D · MA		Oct 20, 2020
Rep. Raskin, Jamie [D-MD-8]	D · MD		Oct 20, 2020
Rep. Roybal-Allard, Lucille [D-CA-40]	D · CA		Oct 20, 2020
Rep. Scanlon, Mary Gay [D-PA-5]	D · PA		Oct 20, 2020
Rep. Schakowsky, Janice D. [D-IL-9]	D · IL		Oct 20, 2020
Rep. Trone, David J. [D-MD-6]	D · MD		Oct 20, 2020
Rep. Wasserman Schultz, Debbie [D-FL-23]	D · FL		Oct 20, 2020
Rep. Welch, Peter [D-VT-At Large]	D · VT		Oct 20, 2020
Rep. Wild, Susan [D-PA-7]	D · PA		Oct 20, 2020
Rep. Blumenauer, Earl [D-OR-3]	D · OR		Oct 23, 2020
Rep. DeSaulnier, Mark [D-CA-11]	D · CA		Oct 23, 2020
Rep. Hayes, Jahana [D-CT-5]	D · CT		Oct 23, 2020
Rep. Ryan, Tim [D-OH-13]	D · OH		Oct 23, 2020
Rep. Tonko, Paul [D-NY-20]	D · NY		Oct 23, 2020
Rep. Foster, Bill [D-IL-11]	D · IL		Oct 27, 2020
Rep. Omar, Ilhan [D-MN-5]	D · MN		Oct 27, 2020
Rep. Evans, Dwight [D-PA-3]	D · PA		Nov 5, 2020
Rep. Huffman, Jared [D-CA-2]	D · CA		Nov 5, 2020
Rep. Levin, Mike [D-CA-49]	D · CA		Nov 5, 2020
Rep. Lowenthal, Alan S. [D-CA-47]	D · CA		Nov 5, 2020
Rep. Moulton, Seth [D-MA-6]	D · MA		Nov 12, 2020
Rep. Pingree, Chellie [D-ME-1]	D · ME		Dec 3, 2020

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Energy and Commerce Committee	House	Referred To	Oct 20, 2020
Judiciary Committee	House	Referred To	Oct 20, 2020

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Health

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Summary (as of Oct 20, 2020)

Mental Health Justice Act of 2020

This bill creates a grant program for states and local governments to train and dispatch mental health professionals to respond, instead of law enforcement officers, to emergencies that involve people with behavioral health needs.

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) must manage the program in consultation with the Department of Justice (DOJ). SAMHSA may cancel grants that increase incarceration or institutionalization. Grantees must use funds for purposes including de-escalation and anti-racism training.

The Department of Health and Human Services and the DOJ must evaluate this program.

Actions Timeline

- **Oct 20, 2020:** Introduced in House
- **Oct 20, 2020:** Referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, 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.