

HR 8821

Keeping Guns From Criminals Act

Congress: 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Crime and Law Enforcement

Introduced: Nov 27, 2020

Current Status: Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary.

Latest Action: Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary. (Nov 27, 2020)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/8821>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Beyer, Donald S., Jr. [D-VA-8]

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

Cosponsors

No cosponsors are listed for this bill.

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Judiciary Committee	House	Referred To	Nov 27, 2020

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Crime and Law Enforcement

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Keeping Guns From Criminals Act

This bill modifies the criminal liability standard for certain firearm sales or transfers.

Current law makes it a crime for any person to knowingly sell or transfer a firearm to a prohibited person (i.e., a person who is prohibited from possessing or receiving a firearm). This legislation eliminates the *knowingly* standard to impose criminal liability on any person who sells or transfers a firearm to a prohibited person, regardless of whether such seller or transferor knows that the buyer is a prohibited person.

A defendant seller or transferor may assert as an affirmative defense against prosecution evidence to prove that the buyer or recipient passed a background check or possessed a valid concealed carry permit in the state of transfer.

The affirmative defense does not apply if the defendant knew or had reasonable cause to believe the buyer or recipient was a prohibited person.

Actions Timeline

- **Nov 27, 2020:** Introduced in House
- **Nov 27, 2020:** Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary.