

## S 1131

### HEAR Act

**Congress:** 117 (2021–2023, Ended)

**Chamber:** Senate

**Policy Area:** Crime and Law Enforcement

**Introduced:** Apr 15, 2021

**Current Status:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

**Latest Action:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. (Apr 15, 2021)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/senate-bill/1131>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Sen. Menendez, Robert [D-NJ]

**Party:** Democratic • **State:** NJ • **Chamber:** Senate

### Cosponsors (6 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Blumenthal, Richard [D-CT]	D · CT		Apr 15, 2021
Sen. Booker, Cory A. [D-NJ]	D · NJ		Apr 15, 2021
Sen. Feinstein, Dianne [D-CA]	D · CA		Apr 15, 2021
Sen. Markey, Edward J. [D-MA]	D · MA		Apr 15, 2021
Sen. Padilla, Alex [D-CA]	D · CA		Apr 15, 2021
Sen. Kaine, Tim [D-VA]	D · VA		Jun 8, 2022

### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Judiciary Committee	Senate	Referred To	Apr 15, 2021

### Subjects & Policy Tags

#### Policy Area:

Crime and Law Enforcement

### Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
117 HR 2544	Identical bill	Oct 19, 2021: Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security.

## **Help Empower Americans to Respond Act of 2021 or the HEAR Act**

This bill establishes a new criminal offense for the import, sale, manufacture, transfer, or possession of a firearm silencer or firearm muffler.

The bill does not prohibit certain conduct with respect to a firearm silencer or firearm muffler, including the following:

- importation, sale, manufacture, transfer, or possession related to certain law enforcement efforts, or authorized tests or experiments; and
- importation, sale, transfer, or possession related to securing nuclear materials.

In addition, the bill requires the Department of Justice to establish and implement a buy-back program to purchase firearm silencers and firearm mufflers. States and local governments may use Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program funds to compensate individuals who surrender firearm silencers and firearm mufflers under this buy-back program.

### **Actions Timeline**

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- **Apr 15, 2021:** Introduced in Senate
- **Apr 15, 2021:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.