

## S 1198

Solid Start Act of 2022

**Congress:** 117 (2021–2023, Ended)

**Chamber:** Senate

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

**Introduced:** Apr 15, 2021

**Current Status:** Became Public Law No: 117-205.

**Latest Action:** Became Public Law No: 117-205. (Oct 17, 2022)

**Law:** 117-205 (Enacted Oct 17, 2022)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/senate-bill/1198>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Sen. Hassan, Margaret Wood [D-NH]

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

### Cosponsors (5 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Cassidy, Bill [R-LA]	R · LA		Apr 15, 2021
Sen. Cramer, Kevin [R-ND]	R · ND		Apr 15, 2021
Sen. Sinema, Kyrsten [D-AZ]	D · AZ		Jul 28, 2021
Sen. Collins, Susan M. [R-ME]	R · ME		Nov 18, 2021
Sen. Cortez Masto, Catherine [D-NV]	D · NV		Dec 17, 2021

### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Veterans' Affairs Committee	Senate	Reported By	Aug 4, 2022

### Subjects & Policy Tags

**Policy Area:**

Armed Forces and National Security

### Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
117 HRES 1396	Related bill	Sep 28, 2022: Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
117 HR 2819	Identical bill	Oct 14, 2021: Subcommittee Hearings Held.
117 S 1396	Related bill	Apr 27, 2021: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

## **Solid Start Act of 2022**

This act permanently authorizes and expands the Solid Start program, which is an outreach program for veterans in their first year of separation from the military.

Specifically, the act requires the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to coordinate with the Department of Defense to

- collect updated contact information during transition classes or separation counseling for members of the Armed Forces who are separating from service;
- explain the existence and purpose of the program;
- call veterans three times within the first year of separation;
- publish information about the program in booklets and on the VA website;
- provide women veterans with information tailored to their health care and benefit needs;
- provide information on access to state and local resources, such as Vet Centers;
- gather and analyze data that assesses the effectiveness of the program;
- ensure calls are tailored to each veteran's needs by conducting quality assurance tests; and
- prioritize outreach to veterans who have accessed mental health resources prior to separation from the Armed Forces.

Under the act, the VA is authorized to (1) encourage members of the Armed Forces to provide additional contact information if they are unreachable following their separation, and (2) follow up on missed phone calls.

## Actions Timeline

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- **Oct 17, 2022:** Presented to President.
- **Oct 17, 2022:** Signed by President.
- **Oct 17, 2022:** Became Public Law No: 117-205.
- **Sep 29, 2022:** Pursuant to the provisions of H. Res. 1396, proceedings on S. 1198 are considered vacated.
- **Sep 29, 2022:** Passed/agreed to in House: Pursuant to section 10 of H. Res. 1396, and the motion offered by Mr. Hoyer, the following bills passed under suspension of the rules: H.R. 1638, as amended; H.R. 3304, as amended; H.R. 4081, as amended; H.R. 4821, as amended; H.R. 6889, as amended; H.R. 6967, as amended; H.R. 8163, as amended; H.R. 8510, as amended; H.R. 8681, as amended; H.R. 8875, as amended; H.R. 8956; S. 1198; and agree to the Senate amendments to H.R. 5641.
- **Sep 29, 2022:** Pursuant to section 10 of H. Res. 1396, and the motion offered by Mr. Hoyer, the following bills passed under suspension of the rules: H.R. 1638, as amended; H.R. 3304, as amended; H.R. 4081, as amended; H.R. 4821, as amended; H.R. 6889, as amended; H.R. 6967, as amended; H.R. 8163, as amended; H.R. 8510, as amended; H.R. 8681, as amended; H.R. 8875, as amended; H.R. 8956; S. 1198; and agree to the Senate amendments to H.R. 5641. (text: CR H8186)
- **Sep 28, 2022:** Mr. Takano moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill.
- **Sep 28, 2022:** Considered under suspension of the rules. (consideration: CR H8186-8190)
- **Sep 28, 2022:** DEBATE - The House proceeded with forty minutes of debate on S. 1198.
- **Sep 28, 2022:** At the conclusion of debate, the Yeas and Nays were demanded and ordered. Pursuant to the provisions of clause 8, rule XX, the Chair announced that further proceedings on the motion would be postponed.
- **Sep 20, 2022:** Message on Senate action sent to the House.
- **Sep 20, 2022:** Held at the desk.
- **Sep 19, 2022:** UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST RETURN OF PAPERS - That the Secretary of the Senate be directed to request the House of Representatives to return to the Senate the bill (S. 1198) entitled "An Act to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve and expand the Solid State program of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes. Agreed to without objection.
- **Sep 19, 2022:** Senate request return of papers
- **Sep 19, 2022:** Message on Senate action sent to the House.
- **Sep 19, 2022:** Papers returned to Senate
- **Sep 19, 2022:** Senate vitiates previous passage, under the order of 9/15/22. (CR S4812)
- **Sep 19, 2022:** Measure laid before Senate by unanimous consent. (consideration: CR S4812)
- **Sep 19, 2022:** The committee substitute, under the order of 9/15/22, withdrawn by Unanimous Consent.
- **Sep 19, 2022:** Passed/agreed to in Senate: Passed Senate, under the order of 9/15/22, with an amendment by Unanimous Consent.
- **Sep 19, 2022:** Passed Senate, under the order of 9/15/22, with an amendment by Unanimous Consent. (text of amendment in the nature of a substitute: CR S4812)
- **Sep 15, 2022:** Senate requests return of papers with respect to S. 1198 by Unanimous Consent.
- **Sep 9, 2022:** Received in the House.
- **Sep 9, 2022:** Held at the desk.
- **Sep 8, 2022:** Passed/agreed to in Senate: Passed Senate with an amendment by Voice Vote.
- **Sep 8, 2022:** Passed Senate with an amendment by Voice Vote. (consideration: CR S4519; text: CR S4519)
- **Sep 8, 2022:** Message on Senate action sent to the House.
- **Aug 4, 2022:** Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Reported by Senator Tester with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. Without written report.
- **Aug 4, 2022:** Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 478.
- **Jul 28, 2021:** Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Ordered to be reported without amendment favorably.
- **Jun 23, 2021:** Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Hearings held. Hearings printed: S.Hrg. 117-231.
- **Apr 15, 2021:** Introduced in Senate
- **Apr 15, 2021:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.