

S 1599

Back the Blue Act of 2021

Congress: 117 (2021–2023, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Crime and Law Enforcement

Introduced: May 12, 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. (May 12, 2021)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/senate-bill/1599>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Cornyn, John [R-TX]

Party: Republican • **State:** TX • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (21 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Blackburn, Marsha [R-TN]	R · TN		May 12, 2021
Sen. Boozman, John [R-AR]	R · AR		May 12, 2021
Sen. Braun, Mike [R-IN]	R · IN		May 12, 2021
Sen. Cassidy, Bill [R-LA]	R · LA		May 12, 2021
Sen. Cramer, Kevin [R-ND]	R · ND		May 12, 2021
Sen. Daines, Steve [R-MT]	R · MT		May 12, 2021
Sen. Ernst, Joni [R-IA]	R · IA		May 12, 2021
Sen. Hyde-Smith, Cindy [R-MS]	R · MS		May 12, 2021
Sen. Inhofe, James M. [R-OK]	R · OK		May 12, 2021
Sen. Lankford, James [R-OK]	R · OK		May 12, 2021
Sen. Moran, Jerry [R-KS]	R · KS		May 12, 2021
Sen. Portman, Rob [R-OH]	R · OH		May 12, 2021
Sen. Risch, James E. [R-ID]	R · ID		May 12, 2021
Sen. Rubio, Marco [R-FL]	R · FL		May 12, 2021
Sen. Scott, Rick [R-FL]	R · FL		May 12, 2021
Sen. Tillis, Thomas [R-NC]	R · NC		May 12, 2021
Sen. Fischer, Deb [R-NE]	R · NE		May 13, 2021
Sen. Crapo, Mike [R-ID]	R · ID		May 17, 2021
Sen. Hagerty, Bill [R-TN]	R · TN		May 17, 2021
Sen. Scott, Tim [R-SC]	R · SC		May 17, 2021
Sen. Thune, John [R-SD]	R · SD		May 27, 2021

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Judiciary Committee	Senate	Referred To	May 12, 2021

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Crime and Law Enforcement

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
117 HR 3080	Related bill	Nov 9, 2021: Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security.

Summary (as of May 12, 2021)

Back the Blue Act of 2021

This bill establishes new criminal offenses for killing, assaulting, and fleeing to avoid prosecution for killing a judge, law enforcement officer, or public safety officer.

Additionally, the bill

- expands the list of statutory aggravating factors in death penalty determinations to also include the killing or attempted killing of a law enforcement officer, judge, prosecutor, or firefighter or other first responder;
- broadens the authority of federal law enforcement officers to carry firearms; and
- limits federal court review of challenges to state court convictions for killing a public safety officer or judge.

Finally, it directs the Department of Justice to make grants to law enforcement agencies and nongovernmental organizations to promote trust and improve relations between law enforcement agencies and the communities they serve.

Actions Timeline

- **May 12, 2021:** Introduced in Senate
- **May 12, 2021:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.