

## HR 2544

Help Empower Americans to Respond Act of 2021

**Congress:** 117 (2021–2023, Ended)

**Chamber:** House

**Policy Area:** Crime and Law Enforcement

**Introduced:** Apr 14, 2021

**Current Status:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security.

**Latest Action:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security. (Oct 19, 2021)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/2544>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Rep. Watson Coleman, Bonnie [D-NJ-12]

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

### Cosponsors (17 total)

| Cosponsor                                   | Party / State | Role | Date Joined  |
|---|---------------|------|--------------|
| Del. Norton, Eleanor Holmes [D-DC-At Large] | D · DC        |      | Apr 14, 2021 |
| Rep. Carson, Andre [D-IN-7]                 | D · IN        |      | Apr 14, 2021 |
| Rep. Davis, Danny K. [D-IL-7]               | D · IL        |      | Apr 14, 2021 |
| Rep. DeSaulnier, Mark [D-CA-11]             | D · CA        |      | Apr 14, 2021 |
| Rep. Escobar, Veronica [D-TX-16]            | D · TX        |      | Apr 14, 2021 |
| Rep. Johnson, Henry C. "Hank," Jr. [D-GA-4] | D · GA        |      | Apr 14, 2021 |
| Rep. McCollum, Betty [D-MN-4]               | D · MN        |      | Apr 14, 2021 |
| Rep. Neguse, Joe [D-CO-2]                   | D · CO        |      | Apr 14, 2021 |
| Rep. Pallone, Frank, Jr. [D-NJ-6]           | D · NJ        |      | Apr 14, 2021 |
| Rep. Payne, Donald M., Jr. [D-NJ-10]        | D · NJ        |      | Apr 14, 2021 |
| Rep. Rush, Bobby L. [D-IL-1]                | D · IL        |      | Apr 14, 2021 |
| Rep. Schakowsky, Janice D. [D-IL-9]         | D · IL        |      | Apr 14, 2021 |
| Rep. Hayes, Jahana [D-CT-5]                 | D · CT        |      | Apr 15, 2021 |
| Rep. Blumenauer, Earl [D-OR-3]              | D · OR        |      | Apr 30, 2021 |
| Rep. Sewell, Terri A. [D-AL-7]              | D · AL        |      | May 18, 2021 |
| Rep. Maloney, Carolyn B. [D-NY-12]          | D · NY        |      | Jun 8, 2022  |
| Rep. Titus, Dina [D-NV-1]                   | D · NV        |      | Jun 8, 2022  |

### Committee Activity

| Committee           | Chamber | Activity    | Date         |
|---------------------|---------|-------------|--------------|
| Judiciary Committee | House   | Referred to | Oct 19, 2021 |

## Subjects & Policy Tags

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### Policy Area:

Crime and Law Enforcement

### Related Bills

| Bill       | Relationship   | Last Action   |
|------------|----------------|---|
| 117 S 1131 | Identical bill | <b>Apr 15, 2021:</b> Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. |

### Summary (as of Apr 14, 2021)

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#### 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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- **Oct 19, 2021:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security.
- **Apr 14, 2021:** Introduced in House
- **Apr 14, 2021:** Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary.