

HR 2695

Combating Sexual Harassment in Science Act

Congress: 117 (2021–2023, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Science, Technology, Communications

Introduced: Apr 20, 2021

Current Status: Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Latest Action: Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. (May 19, 2021)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/2695>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Johnson, Eddie Bernice [D-TX-30]

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

Cosponsors (17 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Lucas, Frank D. [R-OK-3]	R · OK		Apr 20, 2021
Del. Norton, Eleanor Holmes [D-DC-At Large]	D · DC		Apr 30, 2021
Rep. Fitzpatrick, Brian K. [R-PA-1]	R · PA		Apr 30, 2021
Rep. Moore, Gwen [D-WI-4]	D · WI		Apr 30, 2021
Rep. Raskin, Jamie [D-MD-8]	D · MD		Apr 30, 2021
Rep. Castor, Kathy [D-FL-14]	D · FL		May 7, 2021
Rep. Davis, Danny K. [D-IL-7]	D · IL		May 7, 2021
Rep. Bonamici, Suzanne [D-OR-1]	D · OR		May 14, 2021
Rep. Houlahan, Chrissy [D-PA-6]	D · PA		May 14, 2021
Rep. Kildee, Daniel T. [D-MI-5]	D · MI		May 14, 2021
Rep. Perlmutter, Ed [D-CO-7]	D · CO		May 14, 2021
Rep. Ross, Deborah K. [D-NC-2]	D · NC		May 14, 2021
Rep. Sherman, Brad [D-CA-30]	D · CA		May 14, 2021
Rep. Wild, Susan [D-PA-7]	D · PA		May 14, 2021
Resident Commissioner González-Colón, Jenniffer [R-PR-At Large]	R · PR		May 14, 2021
Rep. Bowman, Jamaal [D-NY-16]	D · NY		May 17, 2021
Rep. Foster, Bill [D-IL-11]	D · IL		May 17, 2021

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee	Senate	Referred To	May 19, 2021
Science, Space, and Technology Committee	House	Referred To	Apr 20, 2021

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Science, Technology, Communications

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
117 S 1260	Related bill	Jun 8, 2021: Passed Senate, under the order of 5/28/21, having achieved 60 votes in the affirmative, with an amendment by Yea-Nay Vote. 68 - 32. Record Vote Number: 226. (text: CR S4049-4499)
117 HRES 403	Related bill	May 18, 2021: Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
117 S 1379	Related bill	Apr 27, 2021: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

Summary (as of May 18, 2021)

Combating Sexual Harassment in Science Act

This bill addresses sexual harassment and gender harassment in the science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) fields by supporting research regarding such harassment and efforts to prevent and respond to such harassment.

(Sec. 4) This bill directs the National Science Foundation (NSF) to award grants to institutions of higher education or nonprofit organizations (or their consortia) to

- expand research into sexual harassment and gender harassment in the STEM workforce, including students and trainees; and
- examine interventions for reducing the incidence and negative consequences of such harassment.

(Sec. 5) The NSF must convene a working group composed of representatives of federal statistical agencies to develop questions on sexual harassment and gender harassment in STEM departments in order to gather national data on the prevalence, nature, and implications of such harassment in institutions of higher education.

(Sec. 6) The NSF shall enter into agreements with the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine to (1) update a responsible conduct guide issued by the National Academies to include, among other things, updated professional standards of conduct in research and evidence-based practices for fostering a climate that is intolerant of sexual harassment and gender harassment; and (2) study the influence of such harassment in institutions of higher education on the career advancement of individuals in the STEM workforce.

(Sec. 7) The National Science and Technology Council shall establish an interagency working group to coordinate the federal science agencies' efforts to reduce the prevalence of sexual harassment and gender harassment involving grant personnel.

The Office of Science and Technology Policy must develop a uniform set of policy guidelines for such agencies to prevent and respond to reports of sexual harassment and gender harassment.

Actions Timeline

- **May 19, 2021:** Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.
- **May 18, 2021:** Pursuant to the provisions of H. Res. 403, proceedings on H.R. 2695 are considered vacated.
- **May 18, 2021:** Passed/agreed to in House: Pursuant to section 5 of H. Res. 403, and the motion offered by Mr. Hoyer, the following bills passed under suspension of the rules: H.R. 144, as amended; H.R. 204, as amended; H.R. 210, as amended; H.R. 240; H.R. 707, as amended; H.R. 711, as amended; H.R. 1157, as amended; H.R. 1447, as amended; H.R. 1510, as amended; H.R. 1711, as amended; H.R. 2027; H.R. 2167, as amended; H.R. 2441; H.R. 2494; H.R. 2533; H.R. 2655, as amended; H.R. 2695, H.R. 2704; H.R. 2788; H.R. 2878, as amended; and H.R. 3008. (consideration: CR H2482-2520; text: CR H2515-2517)
- **May 18, 2021:** Pursuant to section 5 of H. Res. 403, and the motion offered by Mr. Hoyer, the following bills passed under suspension of the rules: H.R. 144, as amended; H.R. 204, as amended; H.R. 210, as amended; H.R. 240; H.R. 707, as amended; H.R. 711, as amended; H.R. 1157, as amended; H.R. 1447, as amended; H.R. 1510, as amended; H.R. 1711, as amended; H.R. 2027; H.R. 2167, as amended; H.R. 2441; H.R. 2494; H.R. 2533; H.R. 2655, as amended; H.R. 2695, H.R. 2704; H.R. 2788; H.R. 2878, as amended; and H.R. 3008. (consideration: CR H2482-2520; text: CR H2515-2517)
- **May 17, 2021:** Ms. Bonamici moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill.
- **May 17, 2021:** Considered under suspension of the rules. (consideration: CR H2401-2403; text: CR H2401-2402)
- **May 17, 2021:** DEBATE - The House proceeded with forty minutes of debate on H.R. 2695.
- **May 17, 2021:** 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.
- **Apr 20, 2021:** Introduced in House
- **Apr 20, 2021:** Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR E426-427)
- **Apr 20, 2021:** Referred to the House Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.