

S 3196

Improving Protections for Midshipmen Act

Congress: 117 (2021–2023, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Transportation and Public Works

Introduced: Nov 4, 2021

Current Status: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 597.

Latest Action: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 597. (Dec 7, 2022)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/senate-bill/3196>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Wicker, Roger F. [R-MS]

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

Cosponsors (5 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Collins, Susan M. [R-ME]	R · ME		Nov 4, 2021
Sen. Gillibrand, Kirsten E. [D-NY]	D · NY		Nov 4, 2021
Sen. Moran, Jerry [R-KS]	R · KS		Dec 14, 2021
Sen. Cardin, Benjamin L. [D-MD]	D · MD		Dec 15, 2021
Sen. Peters, Gary C. [D-MI]	D · MI		Dec 15, 2021

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee	Senate	Reported By	Dec 7, 2022

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Transportation and Public Works

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
117 HR 5964	Related bill	Nov 15, 2021: Referred to the Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation.

Improving Protections for Midshipmen Act

This bill addresses sexual harassment, sexual assault, and other policies, procedures, and training for midshipmen at the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy.

For example, the Department of Transportation (DOT) shall establish a Sexual Assault Advisory Council to review the academy's policy on sexual harassment, dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking and other relevant matters related to sexual assault and sexual harassment.

The DOT's Maritime Administration shall (1) establish an information management system to track and maintain information regarding claims and incidents of sexual harassment, dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking involving cadets at the academy; (2) implement comprehensive in-person sexual assault risk-reduction and response training for all midshipmen at the academy; and (3) require a biannual survey of midshipmen, faculty, and staff of the academy assessing the inclusiveness of the environment at the academy and an annual survey assessing the inclusiveness of the environment of the Sea Year program.

Additionally, the bill designates a Special Victims' Advisor to provide legal assistance to any cadet of the academy who is the victim of a sex-related offense.

Further, the Coast Guard shall assess the feasibility of implementing a program modeled on the Catch a Serial Offender program of the Department of Defense. The bill also expands the authority of the Coast Guard to suspend or revoke a mariner's license on grounds related to sexual harassment or assault.

Actions Timeline

- **Dec 7, 2022:** Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. Reported by Senator Cantwell with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. Without written report.
- **Dec 7, 2022:** Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 597.
- **Dec 15, 2021:** Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. Ordered to be reported with an amendment in the nature of a substitute favorably.
- **Nov 4, 2021:** Introduced in Senate
- **Nov 4, 2021:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.