

## HR 4170

Amend the Code for Marriage Equality Act of 2021

**Congress:** 117 (2021–2023, Ended)

**Chamber:** House

**Policy Area:** Civil Rights and Liberties, Minority Issues

**Introduced:** Jun 25, 2021

**Current Status:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual Property, and the Internet.

**Latest Action:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual Property, and the Internet. (Nov 1, 2022)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/4170>

### Sponsor

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**Name:** Rep. Brownley, Julia [D-CA-26]

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

**Cosponsors** (39 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Bera, Ami [D-CA-7]	D · CA		Jun 25, 2021
Rep. Blumenauer, Earl [D-OR-3]	D · OR		Jun 25, 2021
Rep. Carson, Andre [D-IN-7]	D · IN		Jun 25, 2021
Rep. Cartwright, Matt [D-PA-8]	D · PA		Jun 25, 2021
Rep. Case, Ed [D-HI-1]	D · HI		Jun 25, 2021
Rep. Cicilline, David N. [D-RI-1]	D · RI		Jun 25, 2021
Rep. Crow, Jason [D-CO-6]	D · CO		Jun 25, 2021
Rep. DeGette, Diana [D-CO-1]	D · CO		Jun 25, 2021
Rep. DelBene, Suzan K. [D-WA-1]	D · WA		Jun 25, 2021
Rep. Deutch, Theodore E. [D-FL-22]	D · FL		Jun 25, 2021
Rep. Gallego, Ruben [D-AZ-7]	D · AZ		Jun 25, 2021
Rep. Hayes, Jahana [D-CT-5]	D · CT		Jun 25, 2021
Rep. Higgins, Brian [D-NY-26]	D · NY		Jun 25, 2021
Rep. Khanna, Ro [D-CA-17]	D · CA		Jun 25, 2021
Rep. Kildee, Daniel T. [D-MI-5]	D · MI		Jun 25, 2021
Rep. Kilmer, Derek [D-WA-6]	D · WA		Jun 25, 2021
Rep. Kuster, Ann M. [D-NH-2]	D · NH		Jun 25, 2021
Rep. Lee, Barbara [D-CA-13]	D · CA		Jun 25, 2021
Rep. Lieu, Ted [D-CA-33]	D · CA		Jun 25, 2021
Rep. Lowenthal, Alan S. [D-CA-47]	D · CA		Jun 25, 2021
Rep. Maloney, Sean Patrick [D-NY-18]	D · NY		Jun 25, 2021
Rep. McCollum, Betty [D-MN-4]	D · MN		Jun 25, 2021
Rep. Meeks, Gregory W. [D-NY-5]	D · NY		Jun 25, 2021
Rep. Moulton, Seth [D-MA-6]	D · MA		Jun 25, 2021
Rep. Pappas, Chris [D-NH-1]	D · NH		Jun 25, 2021
Rep. Pingree, Chellie [D-ME-1]	D · ME		Jun 25, 2021
Rep. Pressley, Ayanna [D-MA-7]	D · MA		Jun 25, 2021
Rep. Scanlon, Mary Gay [D-PA-5]	D · PA		Jun 25, 2021
Rep. Schakowsky, Janice D. [D-IL-9]	D · IL		Jun 25, 2021
Rep. Sherman, Brad [D-CA-30]	D · CA		Jun 25, 2021
Rep. Smith, Adam [D-WA-9]	D · WA		Jun 25, 2021
Rep. Soto, Darren [D-FL-9]	D · FL		Jun 25, 2021
Rep. Thompson, Mike [D-CA-5]	D · CA		Jun 25, 2021
Rep. Tlaib, Rashida [D-MI-13]	D · MI		Jun 25, 2021
Rep. Tonko, Paul [D-NY-20]	D · NY		Jun 25, 2021
Rep. Wilson, Frederica S. [D-FL-24]	D · FL		Jun 25, 2021
Rep. Craig, Angie [D-MN-2]	D · MN		Jun 29, 2021
Del. Norton, Eleanor Holmes [D-DC-At Large]	D · DC		Jul 9, 2021
Rep. Chu, Judy [D-CA-27]	D · CA		Oct 19, 2021

## Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Judiciary Committee	House	Referred to	Nov 1, 2022

## Subjects & Policy Tags

### Policy Area:

Civil Rights and Liberties, Minority Issues

## Related Bills

*No related bills are listed.*

## Summary (as of Jun 25, 2021)

### Amend the Code for Marriage Equality Act of 2021

This bill amends the Internal Revenue Code, the Social Security Act (SSAct), and other federal laws to replace (1) references to *wife* or *husband* with references to *spouse*, and (2) references to *husband and wife* or *husband or wife* with references to *married couple* or *married person*.

For purposes of federal laws or regulations, *marriage* is defined as a legal union between two people as spouses. The bill eliminates a definition of *spouse* that refers only to a person of the opposite sex who is a husband or a wife.

Requirements concerning compensation to a surviving wife after the disability or death of a person employed at a military, air, or naval base outside the United States are revised to make surviving spouses eligible for such compensation.

The bill makes similar revisions to the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 and the Federal Mine Safety and Health Act of 1977.

The bill revises title II (Old Age, Survivors and Disability Insurance) of the SSAct to consolidate separate provisions for a wife's insurance benefits and a husband's insurance benefits into a single standard for a spouse's insurance benefits.

Criminal penalties that currently apply to persons who threaten to kill, kidnap, or inflict bodily harm upon a former President's wife or widow are revised to apply to threats made to a former President's spouse or surviving spouse.

## Actions Timeline

- **Nov 1, 2022:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual Property, and the Internet.
- **Jun 25, 2021:** Introduced in House
- **Jun 25, 2021:** Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary.