

HR 5235

Student Mental Health Helpline Act of 2021

Congress: 117 (2021–2023, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Health

Introduced: Sep 10, 2021

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health. (Sep 13, 2021)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/5235>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Newman, Marie [D-IL-3]

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

Cosponsors (8 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Stewart, Chris [R-UT-2]	R · UT		Sep 10, 2021
Rep. Pappas, Chris [D-NH-1]	D · NH		Sep 30, 2021
Rep. Soto, Darren [D-FL-9]	D · FL		Sep 30, 2021
Rep. Bonamici, Suzanne [D-OR-1]	D · OR		Oct 20, 2021
Rep. Vela, Filemon [D-TX-34]	D · TX		Oct 21, 2021
Rep. Wild, Susan [D-PA-7]	D · PA		Oct 21, 2021
Rep. Grijalva, Raúl M. [D-AZ-3]	D · AZ		Nov 1, 2021
Rep. Kilmer, Derek [D-WA-6]	D · WA		Nov 1, 2021

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Energy and Commerce Committee	House	Referred to	Sep 13, 2021

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Health

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Student Mental Health Helpline Act of 2021

This bill authorizes grants to support student mental health and safety helplines (i.e., a free, confidential service that is accessible via telephone and other communication platforms that assists students facing challenges with abuse, bullying, depression, self-harm, and related issues). The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) may award the grants to agencies or other subdivisions of a state, Indian tribe, or local government that are primarily responsible for health, public health, or education.

Among other purposes, recipients must use funds to establish or maintain a helpline that provides information to school officials (to the extent permitted by federal privacy standards for health information) about student mental health and safety concerns.

The bill also requires SAMHSA to report on the feasibility of setting up a nationally available student mental health and safety helpline.

Actions Timeline

- **Sep 13, 2021:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.
- **Sep 10, 2021:** Introduced in House
- **Sep 10, 2021:** Referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.