

## HR 5529

Veterans Justice Outreach Improvement Act

**Congress:** 117 (2021–2023, Ended)

**Chamber:** House

**Policy Area:** Armed Forces and National Security

**Introduced:** Oct 8, 2021

**Current Status:** Ordered to be Reported (Amended) by Voice Vote.

**Latest Action:** Ordered to be Reported (Amended) by Voice Vote. (Nov 4, 2021)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/5529>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Rep. Miller-Meeks, Mariannette [R-IA-2]

**Party:** Republican • **State:** IA • **Chamber:** House

### Cosponsors (7 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Bost, Mike [R-IL-12]	R · IL		Oct 8, 2021
Rep. Salazar, Maria Elvira [R-FL-27]	R · FL		Oct 21, 2021
Rep. Trone, David J. [D-MD-6]	D · MD		Nov 3, 2021
Rep. Malliotakis, Nicole [R-NY-11]	R · NY		Feb 8, 2022
Rep. Gottheimer, Josh [D-NJ-5]	D · NJ		Jul 15, 2022
Rep. Pappas, Chris [D-NH-1]	D · NH		Sep 29, 2022
Rep. Golden, Jared F. [D-ME-2]	D · ME		Dec 13, 2022

### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Veterans' Affairs Committee	House	Discharged from	Nov 4, 2021

### Subjects & Policy Tags

#### Policy Area:

Armed Forces and National Security

### Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
117 S 3323	Related bill	<b>Dec 7, 2021:</b> Read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

## **Veterans Justice Outreach Improvement Act**

This bill updates the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Veterans Justice Outreach Program, which is a program through which the VA identifies justice-involved veterans and provides them with access to VA services. Justice-involved veterans are those with active, ongoing, or recent contact with some component of a local criminal justice system.

Specifically, the bill requires the VA to conduct program outreach to justice-involved veterans, military and veterans service organizations, and relevant stakeholders in the criminal justice community (e.g., local law enforcement).

The VA must increase the number of program specialists responsible for supporting justice-involved veterans in rural, remote, or underserved areas.

Additionally, the VA must establish performance goals, measures, and implementation time lines for the program, specialists, and providing support for research regarding justice-involved veterans.

Program specialists must receive training, at least annually, on (1) veteran eligibility for the program, and (2) best practices for identifying and conducting outreach to justice-involved veterans and relevant stakeholders in the criminal justice community.

## **Actions Timeline**

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- **Nov 4, 2021:** Subcommittee on Health Discharged.
- **Nov 4, 2021:** Committee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held.
- **Nov 4, 2021:** Ordered to be Reported (Amended) by Voice Vote.
- **Oct 14, 2021:** Subcommittee Hearings Held.
- **Oct 13, 2021:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.
- **Oct 8, 2021:** Introduced in House
- **Oct 8, 2021:** Referred to the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs.