

HR 7254

Mental Health Justice and Parity Act of 2022

Congress: 117 (2021–2023, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Health

Introduced: Mar 28, 2022

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security. (Nov 1, 2022)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/7254>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Porter, Katie [D-CA-45]

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

Cosponsors (1 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Dingell, Debbie [D-MI-12]	D · MI		Mar 28, 2022

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Energy and Commerce Committee	House	Referred to	Mar 29, 2022
Judiciary Committee	House	Referred to	Nov 1, 2022

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Health

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
117 HR 8542	Related bill	Sep 27, 2022: Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.
117 HR 1368	Related bill	Apr 28, 2021: Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security.
117 S 515	Related bill	Mar 1, 2021: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Mental Health Justice and Parity Act of 2022

This bill creates a grant program for mental health first responder units. It also eliminates a provision that permits nonfederal government health insurance plans that are self-funded to opt out of requirements to provide parity between coverage of medical services and mental health services.

Specifically, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) must award grants to states and local governments to train and dispatch mental health professionals to respond, instead of law enforcement officers, to emergencies that involve people with behavioral health needs. SAMHSA must manage the program in consultation with the Department of Justice (DOJ). SAMHSA may cancel grants that increase incarceration or institutionalization. Grantees must use funds for purposes including de-escalation and anti-racism training.

The Department of Health and Human Services and the DOJ must evaluate this program.

Actions Timeline

- **Nov 1, 2022:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security.
- **Mar 29, 2022:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.
- **Mar 28, 2022:** Introduced in House
- **Mar 28, 2022:** Referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.