

S 216

RESPECT Act of 2023

Congress: 118 (2023–2025, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Armed Forces and National Security

Introduced: Feb 1, 2023

Current Status: Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Ordered to be reported without amendment favorably.

Latest Action: Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Ordered to be reported without amendment favorably. (Feb 16, 2023)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/senate-bill/216>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Moran, Jerry [R-KS]

Party: Republican • State: KS • Chamber: Senate

Cosponsors (2 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Coons, Christopher A. [D-DE]	D · DE		Apr 26, 2023
Sen. Kelly, Mark [D-AZ]	D · AZ		Jun 4, 2024

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Veterans' Affairs Committee	Senate	Markup By	Feb 16, 2023

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Armed Forces and National Security

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
118 HR 3581	Related bill	Dec 5, 2023: Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

Reinforcing Enhanced Support through Promoting Equity for Caregivers Act of 2023 or the RESPECT Act of 2023

This bill modifies the caregiver programs of the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and addresses the provision of support for caregivers participating in such programs.

The bill expands (1) the Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers to include services related to neurological disorders and additional mental health services, and (2) the Program of General Caregiver Support Services to include services related to neurological disorders.

The VA must establish a process and requirements for its clinicians to document incidents in which veterans in the family caregiver program present at a facility for treatment for an emergent or urgent mental health crisis or are assessed to be at risk for suicide.

The bill sets forth the VA's process and requirements for determining or reassessing the eligibility of a veteran and caregiver for the family caregiver program, including with regard to the provision of documentation and evidence related to mental health, psychological trauma, or a neurological disorder. The VA must waive the reassessment requirement under specified circumstances, such as when a veteran's serious injury is caused by a degenerative or chronic condition.

The VA is authorized to award grants to implement, coordinate, improve, or enhance mental health counseling, treatment, or support for family caregivers of veterans participating in the family caregiver program.

The Government Accountability Office must report on the provision of mental health support to caregivers of veterans.

Actions Timeline

- **Feb 16, 2023:** Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Ordered to be reported without amendment favorably.
- **Feb 1, 2023:** Introduced in Senate
- **Feb 1, 2023:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.