

S 25

Assault Weapons Ban of 2023

Congress: 118 (2023–2025, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Crime and Law Enforcement

Introduced: Jan 23, 2023

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. (Sponsor introductory remarks on measure:

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. (Sponsor introductory remarks on measure: CR S55) (Jan 23, 2023)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/senate-bill/25>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Feinstein, Dianne [D-CA]

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

Cosponsors (45 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Baldwin, Tammy [D-WI]	D · WI		Jan 23, 2023
Sen. Bennet, Michael F. [D-CO]	D · CO		Jan 23, 2023
Sen. Blumenthal, Richard [D-CT]	D · CT		Jan 23, 2023
Sen. Booker, Cory A. [D-NJ]	D · NJ		Jan 23, 2023
Sen. Brown, Sherrod [D-OH]	D · OH		Jan 23, 2023
Sen. Cardin, Benjamin L. [D-MD]	D · MD		Jan 23, 2023
Sen. Carper, Thomas R. [D-DE]	D · DE		Jan 23, 2023
Sen. Casey, Robert P., Jr. [D-PA]	D · PA		Jan 23, 2023
Sen. Coons, Christopher A. [D-DE]	D · DE		Jan 23, 2023
Sen. Duckworth, Tammy [D-IL]	D · IL		Jan 23, 2023
Sen. Durbin, Richard J. [D-IL]	D · IL		Jan 23, 2023
Sen. Fetterman, John [D-PA]	D · PA		Jan 23, 2023
Sen. Gillibrand, Kirsten E. [D-NY]	D · NY		Jan 23, 2023
Sen. Hassan, Margaret Wood [D-NH]	D · NH		Jan 23, 2023
Sen. Hickenlooper, John W. [D-CO]	D · CO		Jan 23, 2023
Sen. Hirono, Mazie K. [D-HI]	D · HI		Jan 23, 2023
Sen. Kaine, Tim [D-VA]	D · VA		Jan 23, 2023
Sen. Klobuchar, Amy [D-MN]	D · MN		Jan 23, 2023
Sen. Lujan, Ben Ray [D-NM]	D · NM		Jan 23, 2023
Sen. Markey, Edward J. [D-MA]	D · MA		Jan 23, 2023
Sen. Menendez, Robert [D-NJ]	D · NJ		Jan 23, 2023
Sen. Merkley, Jeff [D-OR]	D · OR		Jan 23, 2023
Sen. Murphy, Christopher [D-CT]	D · CT		Jan 23, 2023
Sen. Murray, Patty [D-WA]	D · WA		Jan 23, 2023
Sen. Padilla, Alex [D-CA]	D · CA		Jan 23, 2023
Sen. Reed, Jack [D-RI]	D · RI		Jan 23, 2023
Sen. Rosen, Jacky [D-NV]	D · NV		Jan 23, 2023
Sen. Sanders, Bernard [I-VT]	I · VT		Jan 23, 2023
Sen. Schatz, Brian [D-HI]	D · HI		Jan 23, 2023
Sen. Schumer, Charles E. [D-NY]	D · NY		Jan 23, 2023
Sen. Shaheen, Jeanne [D-NH]	D · NH		Jan 23, 2023
Sen. Smith, Tina [D-MN]	D · MN		Jan 23, 2023
Sen. Stabenow, Debbie [D-MI]	D · MI		Jan 23, 2023
Sen. Van Hollen, Chris [D-MD]	D · MD		Jan 23, 2023
Sen. Warner, Mark R. [D-VA]	D · VA		Jan 23, 2023
Sen. Warnock, Raphael G. [D-GA]	D · GA		Jan 23, 2023
Sen. Warren, Elizabeth [D-MA]	D · MA		Jan 23, 2023
Sen. Welch, Peter [D-VT]	D · VT		Jan 23, 2023
Sen. Whitehouse, Sheldon [D-RI]	D · RI		Jan 23, 2023
Sen. Wyden, Ron [D-OR]	D · OR		Jan 23, 2023
Sen. Peters, Gary C. [D-MI]	D · MI		Jan 24, 2023

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Cortez Masto, Catherine [D-NV]	D · NV		May 1, 2023
Sen. Ossoff, Jon [D-GA]	D · GA		Jun 6, 2023
Sen. Cantwell, Maria [D-WA]	D · WA		Sep 5, 2023
Sen. Butler, Laphonza R. [D-CA]	D · CA		Feb 26, 2024

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Judiciary Committee	Senate	Referred To	Jan 23, 2023

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Crime and Law Enforcement

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
118 HR 6596	Related bill	Dec 8, 2023: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.
118 S 3407	Related bill	Dec 5, 2023: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.
118 HR 698	Related bill	Jun 5, 2023: ASSUMING FIRST SPONSORSHIP - Mrs. McBath asked unanimous consent that she may hereafter be considered as the first sponsor of H.R. 698, a bill originally introduced by Representative Cicilline, for the purpose of adding cosponsors and requesting reprintings pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII. Agreed to without objection.
118 S 298	Related bill	Feb 7, 2023: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.
118 HR 625	Related bill	Jan 30, 2023: Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary.

Assault Weapons Ban of 2023

This bill makes it a crime to knowingly import, sell, manufacture, transfer, or possess a semiautomatic assault weapon (SAW) or large capacity ammunition feeding device (LCAFD).

The prohibition does not apply to a firearm that is (1) manually operated by bolt, pump, lever, or slide action, except for certain shotguns; (2) permanently inoperable; (3) an antique; (4) only capable of firing rimfire ammunition; or (5) a rifle or shotgun specifically identified by make and model.

The bill also exempts from the prohibition the following, with respect to a SAW or LCAFD:

- importation, sale, manufacture, transfer, or possession related to certain law enforcement efforts, or authorized tests or experiments;
- importation, sale, transfer, or possession related to securing nuclear materials; and
- possession by a retired law enforcement officer.

The bill permits continued possession, sale, or transfer of a grandfathered SAW, which must be securely stored. A licensed gun dealer must conduct a background check prior to the sale or transfer of a grandfathered SAW between private parties.

The bill permits continued possession of, but prohibits sale or transfer of, a grandfathered LCAFD.

Newly manufactured LCAFDs must display serial number identification. Newly manufactured SAWs and LCAFDs must display the date of manufacture.

The bill also allows a state or local government to use Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program funds to compensate individuals who surrender a SAW or LCAFD under a buy-back program.

Actions Timeline

- **Jan 23, 2023:** Introduced in Senate
- **Jan 23, 2023:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. (Sponsor introductory remarks on measure: CR S55)