

HR 2985

HEAR Act of 2023

Congress: 118 (2023–2025, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Crime and Law Enforcement

Introduced: Apr 27, 2023

Current Status: Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary.

Latest Action: Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary. (Apr 27, 2023)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-bill/2985>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Watson Coleman, Bonnie [D-NJ-12]

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

Cosponsors (17 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Del. Norton, Eleanor Holmes [D-DC-At Large]	D · DC		Apr 27, 2023
Rep. Crockett, Jasmine [D-TX-30]	D · TX		Apr 27, 2023
Rep. Espaillat, Adriano [D-NY-13]	D · NY		Apr 27, 2023
Rep. Ivey, Glenn [D-MD-4]	D · MD		Apr 27, 2023
Rep. Lee, Barbara [D-CA-12]	D · CA		Apr 27, 2023
Rep. Nickel, Wiley [D-NC-13]	D · NC		Apr 27, 2023
Rep. Tlaib, Rashida [D-MI-12]	D · MI		Apr 27, 2023
Rep. Blumenauer, Earl [D-OR-3]	D · OR		Apr 28, 2023
Rep. DeSaulnier, Mark [D-CA-10]	D · CA		Apr 28, 2023
Rep. Magaziner, Seth [D-RI-2]	D · RI		May 9, 2023
Rep. Case, Ed [D-HI-1]	D · HI		May 17, 2023
Rep. Menendez, Robert [D-NJ-8]	D · NJ		May 17, 2023
Rep. Green, Al [D-TX-9]	D · TX		May 22, 2023
Rep. Casten, Sean [D-IL-6]	D · IL		Jun 9, 2023
Rep. Payne, Donald M., Jr. [D-NJ-10]	D · NJ		Aug 15, 2023
Rep. Sherrill, Mikie [D-NJ-11]	D · NJ		Jan 5, 2024
Rep. Hayes, Jahana [D-CT-5]	D · CT		Aug 13, 2024

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Judiciary Committee	House	Referred To	Apr 27, 2023

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Crime and Law Enforcement

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
118 S 1383	Identical bill	Apr 27, 2023: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Summary (as of Apr 27, 2023)

Help Empower Americans to Respond Act of 2023 or the HEAR Act of 2023

This bill establishes a new criminal offense for the import, sale, manufacture, transfer, or possession of a firearm silencer or firearm muffler.

The bill does not prohibit certain conduct with respect to a firearm silencer or firearm muffler, including the following:

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

In addition, the bill requires the Department of Justice to establish and implement a buy-back program to purchase firearm silencers and firearm mufflers. States and local governments may use Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program funds to compensate individuals who surrender firearm silencers and firearm mufflers under this buy-back program.

Actions Timeline

- **Apr 27, 2023:** Introduced in House
- **Apr 27, 2023:** Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary.