

## HR 2990

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Sexual Harassment and Assault Prevention Improvements Act of 2023

**Congress:** 118 (2023–2025, Ended)

**Chamber:** House

**Policy Area:** Public Lands and Natural Resources

**Introduced:** Apr 28, 2023

**Current Status:** Subcommittee Hearings Held

**Latest Action:** Subcommittee Hearings Held (Oct 25, 2023)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-bill/2990>

#### Sponsor

**Name:** Rep. Bonamici, Suzanne [D-OR-1]

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

#### Cosponsors (3 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Huffman, Jared [D-CA-2]	D · CA		Apr 28, 2023
Rep. Salazar, Maria Elvira [R-FL-27]	R · FL		Apr 28, 2023
Rescom. González-Colón, Jenniffer [R-PR-At Large]	R · PR		Apr 28, 2023

#### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Natural Resources Committee	House	Hearings By (subcommittee)	Oct 25, 2023
Transportation and Infrastructure Committee	House	Referred to	May 1, 2023

#### Subjects & Policy Tags

##### Policy Area:

Public Lands and Natural Resources

#### Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
118 HR 8862	Related bill	Aug 1, 2024: Referred to the Subcommittee on Conservation, Research, and Biotechnology.

## **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Sexual Harassment and Assault Prevention Improvements Act of 2023**

This bill addresses sexual harassment and sexual assault involving personnel of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

The bill specifies that NOAA's sexual harassment prevention and response policy applies to personnel such as observers, at-sea monitors, and voting members and staff of regional fishery management councils.

The bill removes the requirement that certain acts, such as assault, intimidation, and sexual harassment of an observer or a data collector, be forcible in nature to be unlawful.

The bill also requires NOAA's Office of Marine and Aviation Operations to establish a policy for reporting to the Coast Guard the names of NOAA personnel who are the subject of certain claims. Specifically, such reports must identify employees or contractors who are the subject of a claim of an act or offense detrimental to good discipline and safety at sea (e.g., a claim of sexual assault substantiated by an investigation) or any other substantiated claim of an act or offense for which suspension or revocation of a credential is either mandatory or sought pursuant to certain Coast Guard regulations.

Additionally, the bill directs NOAA to develop a restricted reporting system that allows employees and other personnel to confidentially report sexual harassment or assault and receive services without triggering an investigation.

Finally, the bill also expands reporting requirements on sexual harassment, sexual assault, and equal employment.

### **Actions Timeline**

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- **Oct 25, 2023:** Subcommittee Hearings Held
- **May 22, 2023:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Water, Wildlife, and Fisheries.
- **May 1, 2023:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment.
- **Apr 28, 2023:** Introduced in House
- **Apr 28, 2023:** Referred to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, 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.