

HR 355

Back the Blue Act of 2023

Congress: 118 (2023–2025, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Crime and Law Enforcement

Introduced: Jan 13, 2023

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

Latest Action: Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary. (Jan 13, 2023)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-bill/355>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Bacon, Don [R-NE-2]

Party: Republican • **State:** NE • **Chamber:** House

Cosponsors (20 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Allen, Rick W. [R-GA-12]	R · GA		Jan 13, 2023
Rep. Amodei, Mark E. [R-NV-2]	R · NV		Jan 13, 2023
Rep. Barr, Andy [R-KY-6]	R · KY		Jan 13, 2023
Rep. Bilirakis, Gus M. [R-FL-12]	R · FL		Jan 13, 2023
Rep. Carl, Jerry L. [R-AL-1]	R · AL		Jan 13, 2023
Rep. Johnson, Bill [R-OH-6]	R · OH		Jan 13, 2023
Rep. LaMalfa, Doug [R-CA-1]	R · CA		Jan 13, 2023
Rep. Latta, Robert E. [R-OH-5]	R · OH		Jan 13, 2023
Rep. Meuser, Daniel [R-PA-9]	R · PA		Jan 13, 2023
Rep. Newhouse, Dan [R-WA-4]	R · WA		Jan 13, 2023
Rep. Reschenthaler, Guy [R-PA-14]	R · PA		Jan 13, 2023
Rep. Stefanik, Elise M. [R-NY-21]	R · NY		Jan 13, 2023
Rep. D'Esposito, Anthony [R-NY-4]	R · NY		Jan 20, 2023
Rep. Jackson, Ronny [R-TX-13]	R · TX		Jan 20, 2023
Rep. Lawler, Michael [R-NY-17]	R · NY		Feb 27, 2023
Rep. Hudson, Richard [R-NC-9]	R · NC		Feb 28, 2023
Rep. LaLota, Nick [R-NY-1]	R · NY		Feb 28, 2023
Rep. Gonzales, Tony [R-TX-23]	R · TX		Sep 14, 2023
Rep. Kiggans, Jennifer A. [R-VA-2]	R · VA		Apr 30, 2024
Rep. Van Orden, Derrick [R-WI-3]	R · WI		Jun 25, 2024

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Judiciary Committee	House	Referred To	Jan 13, 2023

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Crime and Law Enforcement

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
118 S 1569	Related bill	May 11, 2023: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.
118 HR 3079	Related bill	May 5, 2023: Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary.

Summary (as of Jan 13, 2023)

Back the Blue Act of 2023

This bill establishes new criminal offenses for killing, assaulting, and fleeing to avoid prosecution for killing a judge, law enforcement officer, or public safety officer.

Additionally, the bill

- expands the list of statutory aggravating factors in death penalty determinations to also include the killing or attempted killing of a law enforcement officer, judge, prosecutor, or firefighter or other first responder;
- broadens the authority of federal law enforcement officers to carry firearms; and
- limits federal court review of challenges to state court convictions for killing a public safety officer or judge.

Finally, it directs the Department of Justice to make grants to law enforcement agencies and nongovernmental organizations to promote trust and improve relations between law enforcement agencies and the communities they serve.

Actions Timeline

- **Jan 13, 2023:** Introduced in House
- **Jan 13, 2023:** Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary.