

S 868

Defending Our Defenders Act

Congress: 118 (2023–2025, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Crime and Law Enforcement

Introduced: Mar 16, 2023

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. (Mar 16, 2023)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/senate-bill/868>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Cotton, Tom [R-AR]

Party: Republican • **State:** AR • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors

No cosponsors are listed for this bill.

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Judiciary Committee	Senate	Referred To	Mar 16, 2023

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Crime and Law Enforcement

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
118 HR 1627	Related bill	Mar 17, 2023: Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary.

Summary (as of Mar 16, 2023)

Defending Our Defenders Act

This bill establishes federal criminal offenses involving the murder of federal, state, or local law enforcement officers. Violators are subject to life in prison or death.

The bill sets forth aggravating factors (e.g., intent to ambush or prior history of promoting violence against a law enforcement officer) to be considered in determining whether to impose the death penalty.

Actions Timeline

- **Mar 16, 2023:** Introduced in Senate
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