

HR 1543

EQUITY Act

Congress: 119 (2025–2027, Current)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Armed Forces and National Security

Introduced: Feb 24, 2025

Current Status: Referred to the House Committee on Armed Services.

Latest Action: Referred to the House Committee on Armed Services. (Feb 24, 2025)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/119th-congress/house-bill/1543>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Strickland, Marilyn [D-WA-10]

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

Cosponsors (9 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Del. Norton, Eleanor Holmes [D-DC-At Large]	D · DC		Feb 24, 2025
Rep. Escobar, Veronica [D-TX-16]	D · TX		Feb 24, 2025
Rep. Horsford, Steven [D-NV-4]	D · NV		Feb 24, 2025
Rep. Lieu, Ted [D-CA-36]	D · CA		Feb 24, 2025
Rep. McClellan, Jennifer L. [D-VA-4]	D · VA		Feb 24, 2025
Rep. Sewell, Terri A. [D-AL-7]	D · AL		Feb 24, 2025
Rep. Sherrill, Mikie [D-NJ-11]	D · NJ		Feb 24, 2025
Rep. Tokuda, Jill N. [D-HI-2]	D · HI		Feb 24, 2025
Rep. Veasey, Marc A. [D-TX-33]	D · TX		Feb 24, 2025

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Armed Services Committee	House	Referred To	Feb 24, 2025

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Armed Forces and National Security

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Equal and Uniform Treatment in the Military Act or the EQUITY Act

This bill prohibits discrimination within the Department of Defense (DOD) against individuals on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, gender identity, or sexual orientation.

A qualification established or applied related to eligibility for service in any of the Armed Forces must only consider (1) the ability of an individual to meet the general occupational standards for service, and (2) the particular military occupational specialty.

On January 20, 2025, President Donald Trump signed an executive order titled *Defending Women from Gender Ideology Extremism and Restoring Biological Truth to the Federal Government*, declaring that the United States recognizes two sexes (male and female) and these sexes are not changeable.

On January 27, 2025, President Donald Trump signed an executive order titled *Prioritizing Military Excellence and Readiness*, expressing that the policy for troop readiness is inconsistent with gender dysphoria or the use of pronouns that inaccurately reflect an individual's biological sex. Further, the order directs DOD to update specific guidance documents related to medical standards for military service to reflect the purpose and policy of the order.

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