

HR 59

Mens Rea Reform Act of 2025

Congress: 119 (2025–2027, Current)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Crime and Law Enforcement

Introduced: Jan 3, 2025

Current Status: Ordered to be Reported in the Nature of a Substitute by the Yeas and Nays: 15 - 13.

Latest Action: Ordered to be Reported in the Nature of a Substitute by the Yeas and Nays: 15 - 13. (Jun 10, 2025)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/119th-congress/house-bill/59>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Biggs, Andy [R-AZ-5]

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

Cosponsors (2 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Ogles, Andrew [R-TN-5]	R · TN		Jan 3, 2025
Rep. Roy, Chip [R-TX-21]	R · TX		Jan 9, 2025

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Judiciary Committee	House	Markup By	Jun 10, 2025

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Crime and Law Enforcement

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Summary (as of Jan 3, 2025)

Mens Rea Reform Act of 2025

This bill establishes a default *mens rea* standard (i.e., state of mind requirement) for federal criminal offenses—statutory and regulatory—that lack an explicit standard.

The government must generally prove that a defendant acted knowingly with respect to each element of an offense for which the text does not specify a state of mind.

- **Jan 3, 2025:** Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary.
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