

Marco Rubio, Val Demings introduce anti-violence bills



Marco Rubio



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U. S. Sen. Marco Rubio and U.S. Rep. Val Demings introduced bipartisan companion bills Thursday that would create a national strategy to prevent targeted acts of violence.

The Threat Assessment, Prevention, and Safety (TAPS) Act, co-sponsored in the **Senate** by U.S. Sen. Kyrsten Sinema, D-Arizona, and U.S. Sen. Thom Tillis, R-North Carolina, would create a task force of experts to provide recommendations about threat assessment and management.

It would also provide resources, training, and assistance for local “threat assessment and management units.”

A companion bill was filed in the House of Representatives by U.S. Rep. Brian Babin, R-Texas and U.S. Rep. Val Demings, D-Orlando.

“We must proactively engage with experts in the field of threat assessments in order to help prevent future tragedies,” Rubio said in a statement.

“We have the expertise to implement systems to identify and stop dangerous individuals before they commit an act of violence, but we have yet to fully and effectively develop and utilize it to prevent future attacks,” Rubio said. “By bringing threat assessment experts together and utilizing evidence-based behavioral threat assessment and management processes, this bill will help equip our communities with the tools they need to prevent future tragedies.”

“You should have the right to attend concerts, schools, nightclubs, and places of worship without the fear of violence,” Demings said in a statement. “This bill will help law enforcement agencies large and small learn from the best practices of agencies like the Secret Service and Capitol Police to identify and stop violence before the first shot is fired.”

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