

S 3124

Political Campaign Broadcast Activity Improvements Act

**Congress:** 107 (2001–2003, Ended)

**Chamber:** Senate

**Policy Area:** Science, Technology, Communications

**Introduced:** Oct 16, 2002

**Current Status:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. (text of measure

**Latest Action:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. (text of measure as introduced: CR S10583-10585) (Oct 16, 2002)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/107th-congress/senate-bill/3124>

Sponsor

**Name:** Sen. McCain, John [R-AZ]

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

Cosponsors (2 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Durbin, Richard J. [D-IL]	D · IL		Oct 16, 2002
Sen. Feingold, Russell D. [D-WI]	D · WI		Oct 16, 2002

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee	Senate	Referred To	Oct 16, 2002

Subjects & Policy Tags

**Policy Area:**

Science, Technology, Communications

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Political Campaign Broadcast Activity Improvements Act - Amends the Communications Act of 1934 to include a national committee of a political party acting on behalf of a candidate for public office under provisions requiring the lowest unit charge for radio or television broadcast time for political candidates. Prohibits a licensee of a broadcasting station, except under circumstances beyond its control, from preempting the use of such station by an eligible candidate or political committee who has paid for such use. Requires audits of stations to ensure the provision of broadcasting advertising time for political candidates.

Provides minimum time requirements for candidate- or issue-centered broadcasts by stations.

Directs the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to establish and administer a voucher program for the purchase of airtime for political advertisements on radio and television broadcast stations by eligible candidates and political party committees as certified by the FCC. Provides maximum voucher amounts for both candidates and political committees.. Allows such vouchers to be used exclusively for the purchase of airtime, but allows the transfer of vouchers between a political party and a candidate and vice versa. Requires the FCC to redeem all vouchers accepted by such stations. Provides for voucher expiration.

Directs the FCC to establish the Political Advertising Voucher Account and to collect and deposit into such Account an annual spectrum use fee based on a percentage of a station's gross revenues.

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### **Actions Timeline**

- **Oct 16, 2002:** Introduced in Senate
- **Oct 16, 2002:** Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR S10583)
- **Oct 16, 2002:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. (text of measure as introduced: CR S10583-10585)