

S 2371

Protecting America's Workers Act

**Congress:** 108 (2003–2005, Ended)

**Chamber:** Senate

**Policy Area:** Labor and Employment

**Introduced:** Apr 29, 2004

**Current Status:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

**Latest Action:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions. (Apr 29, 2004)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/108th-congress/senate-bill/2371>

Sponsor

**Name:** Sen. Kennedy, Edward M. [D-MA]

**Party:** Democratic • **State:** MA • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (14 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Akaka, Daniel K. [D-HI]	D · HI		Apr 29, 2004
Sen. Bingaman, Jeff [D-NM]	D · NM		Apr 29, 2004
Sen. Clinton, Hillary Rodham [D-NY]	D · NY		Apr 29, 2004
Sen. Corzine, Jon S. [D-NJ]	D · NJ		Apr 29, 2004
Sen. Dodd, Christopher J. [D-CT]	D · CT		Apr 29, 2004
Sen. Durbin, Richard J. [D-IL]	D · IL		Apr 29, 2004
Sen. Edwards, John [D-NC]	D · NC		Apr 29, 2004
Sen. Feingold, Russell D. [D-WI]	D · WI		Apr 29, 2004
Sen. Harkin, Tom [D-IA]	D · IA		Apr 29, 2004
Sen. Lautenberg, Frank R. [D-NJ]	D · NJ		Apr 29, 2004
Sen. Mikulski, Barbara A. [D-MD]	D · MD		Apr 29, 2004
Sen. Murray, Patty [D-WA]	D · WA		Apr 29, 2004
Sen. Rockefeller, John D., IV [D-WV]	D · WV		Apr 29, 2004
Sen. Bayh, Evan [D-IN]	D · IN		May 6, 2004

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee	Senate	Referred To	Apr 29, 2004

Subjects & Policy Tags

**Policy Area:**

Labor and Employment

## Related Bills

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*No related bills are listed.*

## Summary (as of Apr 29, 2004)

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Protecting America's Workers Act - Amends the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 (OSHA) to expand its coverage to Federal, State, and local government employees.

Authorizes the Secretary of Labor, under specified conditions, to cede OSHA jurisdiction to another Federal agency with respect to certain occupational standards or regulations for such agency's employees. Declares OSHA inapplicable to working conditions covered by the Federal Mine Safety and Health Act of 1977.

Sets forth increased protections for whistleblowers under OSHA.

Increases civil and criminal penalties for certain OSHA violators. Sets forth provisions relating to: (1) victims' rights; (2) posting of employee rights; (3) investigations of fatalities and serious injuries; (4) prohibition of unclassified citations; (5) right to contest citations and penalties; and (6) objections to modifications of citations.

Directs the Secretary to revise regulations and promulgate OSHA standards to require employers to provide personal protective equipment for employees at no cost to employees.

## Actions Timeline

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- **Apr 29, 2004:** Introduced in Senate
- **Apr 29, 2004:** Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR S4699-4700)
- **Apr 29, 2004:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.