

S 787

Fair and Independent Federal Judiciary Act of 2003

Congress: 108 (2003–2005, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Law

Introduced: Apr 3, 2003

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. (text of measure as introduced: CR S4840-

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. (text of measure as introduced: CR S4840-4841) (Apr 3, 2003)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/108th-congress/senate-bill/787>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Leahy, Patrick J. [D-VT]

Party: Democratic • State: VT • Chamber: Senate

Cosponsors (4 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Kerry, John F. [D-MA]	D · MA		Apr 3, 2003
Sen. Durbin, Richard J. [D-IL]	D · IL		May 14, 2003
Sen. Kennedy, Edward M. [D-MA]	D · MA		May 14, 2003
Sen. Pryor, Mark L. [D-AR]	D · AR		Jun 2, 2003

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Judiciary Committee	Senate	Referred To	Apr 3, 2003

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Law

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Summary (as of Apr 3, 2003)

Fair and Independent Federal Judiciary Act of 2003 - Increases salaries for justices of the Supreme Court and for district court and other specified judges. Repeals Federal law that requires specific congressional authorization for salary increases for Federal judges and Supreme Court justices.

Modifies provisions regarding survivor annuity benefits, including to increase the notification period for survivor annuity coverage for a judge of the U.S. Court of Federal Claims.

Directs the President to appoint members to the Citizens' Commission on Public Service and Compensation pursuant to the Federal Salary Act of 1967.

Amends the Federal judicial code to: (1) establish within the Treasury a Judicial Education Fund for the payment of necessary expenses incurred by a judge or justice in attending a private judicial seminar approved by the Board of the Federal Judicial Center; and (2) require each justice, judge, and magistrate of the United States to maintain a list (to be made available to the public) of all financial interests that would require disqualification.

Directs the Judicial Conference of the United States to promulgate regulations to prohibit the solicitation or acceptance of anything of value in connection with a private judicial seminar, with exceptions.

Requires a judge to avoid all impropriety and appearance of impropriety. Makes the prohibition against behaving with impropriety applicable to both the professional and personal conduct of a judge. Prohibits a judge from holding membership in any organization, except for religious or fraternal organizations, that practices discrimination on the basis of race, gender, religion, or national origin.

Actions Timeline

- **Apr 3, 2003:** Introduced in Senate
- **Apr 3, 2003:** Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR S4839-4840)
- **Apr 3, 2003:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. (text of measure as introduced: CR S4840-4841)