

S 2831

Free Flow of Information Act of 2006

Congress: 109 (2005–2007, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Law

Introduced: May 18, 2006

Current Status: Committee on the Judiciary. Hearings held. Hearings printed: S.Hrg. 109-837.

Latest Action: Committee on the Judiciary. Hearings held. Hearings printed: S.Hrg. 109-837. (Sep 20, 2006)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/109th-congress/senate-bill/2831>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Lugar, Richard G. [R-IN]

Party: Republican • State: IN • Chamber: Senate

Cosponsors (9 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Dodd, Christopher J. [D-CT]	D · CT		May 18, 2006
Sen. Graham, Lindsey [R-SC]	R · SC		May 18, 2006
Sen. Schumer, Charles E. [D-NY]	D · NY		May 18, 2006
Sen. Specter, Arlen [R-PA]	R · PA		May 18, 2006
Sen. Jeffords, James M. [I-VT]	I · VT		May 22, 2006
Sen. Biden, Joseph R., Jr. [D-DE]	D · DE		Jun 5, 2006
Sen. Lieberman, Joseph I. [D-CT]	D · CT		Jun 9, 2006
Sen. Domenici, Pete V. [R-NM]	R · NM		Jun 14, 2006
Sen. Grassley, Chuck [R-IA]	R · IA		Jun 14, 2006

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Judiciary Committee	Senate	Hearings By (full committee)	Sep 20, 2006

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Law

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Free Flow of Information Act of 2006 - Prohibits federal courts in criminal or civil proceedings from compelling journalists to disclose their confidential sources or information which they obtain in a professional newsgathering capacity. Allows exceptions if a court finds that: (1) alternative means of obtaining such confidential information have been exhausted and reasonable and timely notice of a demand for such information has been given; (2) subpoenas for such information are limited in scope; (3) such information is critical to pending criminal or civil litigation; and (4) nondisclosure of such information would be contrary to the public interest.

Denies journalists a privilege against disclosure of confidential information if such information: (1) was obtained by eyewitness observations of criminal conduct by a journalist or involvement of such journalist in criminal or tortious conduct; (2) is necessary to prevent death or substantial bodily harm; (3) is necessary to protect national security; and (4) was provided or obtained without a promise of confidentiality.

Actions Timeline

- **Sep 20, 2006:** Committee on the Judiciary. Hearings held. Hearings printed: S.Hrg. 109-837.
- **May 18, 2006:** Introduced in Senate
- **May 18, 2006:** Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR S4800-4801)
- **May 18, 2006:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.