

## S 1516

### Democracy Restoration Act of 2009

**Congress:** 111 (2009–2011, Ended)

**Chamber:** Senate

**Policy Area:** Civil Rights and Liberties, Minority Issues

**Introduced:** Jul 24, 2009

**Current Status:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. (text of measure as introduced: CR S8096-

**Latest Action:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. (text of measure as introduced: CR S8096-8097) (Jul 24, 2009)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/111th-congress/senate-bill/1516>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Sen. Feingold, Russell D. [D-WI]

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

### Cosponsors (4 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Cardin, Benjamin L. [D-MD]	D · MD		Jul 24, 2009
Sen. Whitehouse, Sheldon [D-RI]	D · RI		Jul 24, 2009
Sen. Specter, Arlen [D-PA]	D · PA		Aug 7, 2009
Sen. Durbin, Richard J. [D-IL]	D · IL		Mar 11, 2010

### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Judiciary Committee	Senate	Referred To	Jul 24, 2009

### Subjects & Policy Tags

#### Policy Area:

Civil Rights and Liberties, Minority Issues

### Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
111 HR 3335	Related bill	Mar 16, 2010: Committee Hearings Held.

Democracy Restoration Act of 2009 - Declares that the right of a U.S. citizen to vote in any election for federal office shall not be denied or abridged because that individual has been convicted of a criminal offense unless, at the time of the election, such individual is serving a felony sentence in a correctional institution or facility. Provides for enforcement and remedies for violations of this Act.

Specifies that: (1) nothing in this Act shall be construed to prohibit a state from enacting any state law that affords the right to vote in any election for federal office on terms less restrictive than those terms established by this Act; and (2) the rights and remedies established by this Act shall be in addition to all other rights and remedies provided by law, and shall not supersede, restrict, or limit the application of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 or the National Voter Registration Act of 1993.

Prohibits any state, unit of local government, or other person from receiving or using any federal grant amounts to construct or improve a place of incarceration unless that person has a program to notify each U.S. citizen incarcerated in that person's jurisdiction, on release from such incarceration, of that individual's rights under this Act.

### **Actions Timeline**

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- **Jul 24, 2009:** Introduced in Senate
- **Jul 24, 2009:** Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR S8095-8096)
- **Jul 24, 2009:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. (text of measure as introduced: CR S8096-8097)