

S 1789

Fair Sentencing Act of 2010

Congress: 111 (2009–2011, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Crime and Law Enforcement

Introduced: Oct 15, 2009

Current Status: Became Public Law No: 111-220.

Latest Action: Became Public Law No: 111-220. (Aug 3, 2010)

Law: 111-220 (Enacted Aug 3, 2010)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/111th-congress/senate-bill/1789>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Durbin, Richard J. [D-IL]

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

Cosponsors (23 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Cardin, Benjamin L. [D-MD]	D · MD		Oct 15, 2009
Sen. Dodd, Christopher J. [D-CT]	D · CT		Oct 15, 2009
Sen. Feingold, Russell D. [D-WI]	D · WI		Oct 15, 2009
Sen. Franken, Al [D-MN]	D · MN		Oct 15, 2009
Sen. Kaufman, Edward E. [D-DE]	D · DE		Oct 15, 2009
Sen. Kerry, John F. [D-MA]	D · MA		Oct 15, 2009
Sen. Leahy, Patrick J. [D-VT]	D · VT		Oct 15, 2009
Sen. Levin, Carl [D-MI]	D · MI		Oct 15, 2009
Sen. Specter, Arlen [D-PA]	D · PA		Oct 15, 2009
Sen. Whitehouse, Sheldon [D-RI]	D · RI		Oct 15, 2009
Sen. Brown, Sherrod [D-OH]	D · OH		Oct 27, 2009
Sen. Sanders, Bernard [I-VT]	I · VT		Nov 2, 2009
Sen. Burris, Roland [D-IL]	D · IL		Nov 3, 2009
Sen. Harkin, Tom [D-IA]	D · IA		Nov 18, 2009
Sen. Webb, Jim [D-VA]	D · VA		Jan 26, 2010
Sen. Feinstein, Dianne [D-CA]	D · CA		Mar 15, 2010
Sen. Grassley, Chuck [R-IA]	R · IA		Mar 15, 2010
Sen. Cornyn, John [R-TX]	R · TX		Mar 16, 2010
Sen. Coburn, Tom [R-OK]	R · OK		Apr 13, 2010
Sen. Graham, Lindsey [R-SC]	R · SC		Apr 13, 2010
Sen. Hatch, Orrin G. [R-UT]	R · UT		Apr 13, 2010
Sen. Sessions, Jeff [R-AL]	R · AL		Apr 13, 2010
Sen. Klobuchar, Amy [D-MN]	D · MN		Apr 15, 2010

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Energy and Commerce Committee	House	Referred To	Mar 18, 2010
Judiciary Committee	Senate	Reported By	Mar 15, 2010
Judiciary Committee	House	Referred to	Jun 15, 2010

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Crime and Law Enforcement

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
111 HR 265	Related bill	May 21, 2009: Subcommittee Hearings Held.

Summary (as of Aug 3, 2010)

(This measure has not been amended since it was reported to the Senate on March 15, 2010. The summary of that version is repeated here.)

Fair Sentencing Act of 2010 - Amends the Controlled Substances Act and the Controlled Substances Import and Export Act to: (1) increase the amount of a controlled substance or mixture containing a cocaine base (i.e., crack cocaine) required for the imposition of mandatory minimum prison terms for trafficking; and (2) increase monetary penalties for drug trafficking and for the importation and exportation of controlled substances.

Eliminates the five-year mandatory minimum prison term for first-time possession of crack cocaine.

Directs the United States Sentencing Commission to: (1) review and amend its sentencing guidelines to increase sentences for defendants convicted of using violence during a drug trafficking offense; (2) incorporate aggravating and mitigating factors in its guidelines for drug trafficking offenses; (3) promulgate guidelines, policy statements, or amendments required by this Act as soon as practicable, but not later than 90 days after the enactment of this Act; and (4) study and report to Congress on the impact of changes in sentencing law under this Act.

Directs the Comptroller General, within one year after the enactment of this Act, to report to Congress analyzing the effectiveness of drug court programs under the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968.

Actions Timeline

- **Aug 3, 2010:** Signed by President.
- **Aug 3, 2010:** Became Public Law No: 111-220.
- **Jul 29, 2010:** Presented to President.
- **Jul 28, 2010:** Mr. Scott (VA) moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill.
- **Jul 28, 2010:** Considered under suspension of the rules. (consideration: CR H6196-6204)
- **Jul 28, 2010:** DEBATE - The House proceeded with forty minutes of debate on S. 1789.
- **Jul 28, 2010:** Passed/agreed to in House: On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill Agreed to by voice vote.(text: CR H6196-6197)
- **Jul 28, 2010:** On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill Agreed to by voice vote. (text: CR H6196-6197)
- **Jul 28, 2010:** Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
- **Jul 28, 2010:** Cleared for White House.
- **Jun 15, 2010:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security.
- **Mar 18, 2010:** Received in the House.
- **Mar 18, 2010:** Message on Senate action sent to the House.
- **Mar 18, 2010:** Referred to House Judiciary
- **Mar 18, 2010:** Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.
- **Mar 18, 2010:** Referred to House Energy and Commerce
- **Mar 17, 2010:** Passed/agreed to in Senate: Passed Senate with an amendment by Unanimous Consent.(consideration: CR S1680-1683; text of amendment in the nature of a substitute: CR S1682)
- **Mar 17, 2010:** Passed Senate with an amendment by Unanimous Consent. (consideration: CR S1680-1683; text of amendment in the nature of a substitute: CR S1682)
- **Mar 15, 2010:** Committee on the Judiciary. Reported by Senator Leahy with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. Without written report.
- **Mar 15, 2010:** Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 316.
- **Mar 11, 2010:** Committee on the Judiciary. Ordered to be reported with amendments favorably.
- **Oct 15, 2009:** Introduced in Senate
- **Oct 15, 2009:** Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR S10490-10492)
- **Oct 15, 2009:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.