

S 3939

Earmark Reform and Federal Spending Transparency and Accountability Act of 2011

Congress: 111 (2009–2011, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Congress

Introduced: Nov 15, 2010

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration. (Nov 15, 2010)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/111th-congress/senate-bill/3939>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Inhofe, James M. [R-OK]

Party: Republican • **State:** OK • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors

No cosponsors are listed for this bill.

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Rules and Administration Committee	Senate	Referred To	Nov 15, 2010

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Congress

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Earmark Reform and Federal Spending Transparency and Accountability Act of 2011 - Amends the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to prohibit, between January 1 of an odd-numbered year and December 31 of the next even-numbered year, an earmark beneficiary from making contributions aggregating more than \$5,000 to any requesting candidate with respect to such earmark beneficiary. Defines "requesting candidate" as any Senator or Member who requested a congressionally directed spending item, limited tax benefit, or limited tariff benefit (earmark) which benefits the earmark beneficiary.

Prohibits the employees of the personal staff of a Member of Congress, except for one designee, from attending a political fund raiser held on the Member's behalf.

Requires the Secretary of the Senate and the Clerk of the House of Representatives each to post on the respective public website a link to the earmark database maintained by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB).

Requires the head of each federal department and agency to post on the respective public website a link to a searchable database that lists each contract, grant, cooperative agreement, and other expenditure made by the department or agency.

Amends Rule XLIV (Congressionally Directed Spending and Related Items) of the Standing Rules of the Senate to require a Senator requesting an earmark in any legislation or an accompanying joint statement of managers to certify in the required written statement to the chairman and ranking member of the committee of jurisdiction that the earmark recipient is qualified to handle the project.

Requires the Comptroller General, in an annual report to Congress, to use the OMB database to: (1) randomly select a percentage of each of the programs and projects funded through earmarks in the preceding fiscal year; (2) audit each selected one; and (3) provide a detailed accounting of how, if it does so, the earmark contributes to an already existing program or project.

Actions Timeline

- **Nov 15, 2010:** Introduced in Senate
- **Nov 15, 2010:** Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR S7902-7907)
- **Nov 15, 2010:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration.