

S 752

Fair Elections Now Act

Congress: 111 (2009–2011, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Government Operations and Politics

Introduced: Mar 31, 2009

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration. (text of measure as introduced)

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration. (text of measure as introduced: CR S4074-4080) (Mar 31, 2009)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/111th-congress/senate-bill/752>

Sponsor

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

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

Cosponsors (24 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Specter, Arlen [R-PA]	R · PA		Mar 31, 2009
Sen. Dodd, Christopher J. [D-CT]	D · CT		May 14, 2009
Sen. Gillibrand, Kirsten E. [D-NY]	D · NY		May 18, 2009
Sen. Feingold, Russell D. [D-WI]	D · WI		Jul 9, 2009
Sen. Boxer, Barbara [D-CA]	D · CA		Sep 15, 2009
Sen. Cantwell, Maria [D-WA]	D · WA		Jan 28, 2010
Sen. Harkin, Tom [D-IA]	D · IA		Jan 29, 2010
Sen. Kerry, John F. [D-MA]	D · MA		Feb 1, 2010
Sen. Bayh, Evan [D-IN]	D · IN		Mar 2, 2010
Sen. Shaheen, Jeanne [D-NH]	D · NH		Mar 16, 2010
Sen. Leahy, Patrick J. [D-VT]	D · VT		Apr 12, 2010
Sen. Menendez, Robert [D-NJ]	D · NJ		Apr 12, 2010
Sen. Kaufman, Edward E. [D-DE]	D · DE		Apr 14, 2010
Sen. Cardin, Benjamin L. [D-MD]	D · MD		Apr 15, 2010
Sen. Carper, Thomas R. [D-DE]	D · DE		Apr 15, 2010
Sen. Klobuchar, Amy [D-MN]	D · MN		Apr 15, 2010
Sen. Casey, Robert P., Jr. [D-PA]	D · PA		May 6, 2010
Sen. Franken, Al [D-MN]	D · MN		May 20, 2010
Sen. Sanders, Bernard [I-VT]	I · VT		May 26, 2010
Sen. Tester, Jon [D-MT]	D · MT		May 26, 2010
Sen. Merkley, Jeff [D-OR]	D · OR		Jun 15, 2010
Sen. Bennet, Michael F. [D-CO]	D · CO		Jul 21, 2010
Sen. Mikulski, Barbara A. [D-MD]	D · MD		Aug 2, 2010
Sen. Akaka, Daniel K. [D-HI]	D · HI		Aug 12, 2010

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Rules and Administration Committee	Senate	Referred To	Mar 31, 2009

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Government Operations and Politics

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
111 HR 6116	Related bill	Dec 22, 2010: Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 410.
111 HR 1826	Related bill	Jul 30, 2009: Committee Hearings Held.

Fair Elections Now Act - Amends the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (FECA) with respect to: (1) eligibility and qualifying contribution requirements and benefits of fair elections financing of Senate election campaigns; (2) establishment of a Fair Elections Fund; (3) eligibility for Fund allocations; (4) contribution and expenditure requirements; (5) a public debate requirement; (6) certification of whether or not a federal election candidate is a participating candidate; (7) benefits for participating candidates; (8) matching payments for qualified small dollar contributions; (9) political advertising vouchers; (10) establishment of a Fair Elections Oversight Board; (11) civil penalties for violation of contribution and expenditure requirements; (12) prohibition of joint fundraising committees with any political committee other than a candidate's authorized committee; and (13) a specified limitation on coordinated expenditures by political party committees with participating candidates.

Amends the Communications Act of 1934 to: (1) prohibit the preemption of the use of a broadcasting station by a legally qualified Senate candidate who has purchased and paid for such use; (2) revise Federal Communications Commission (FCC) authority to revoke licenses for broadcasting stations who fail to provide access to Senate candidates; and (3) revise the formula for determining reduced broadcast rates for participating candidates in certain circumstances.

Directs the FCC to initiate a rulemaking proceeding to establish a standardized form to be used by broadcasting stations to record and report the purchase of advertising time by or on behalf of a candidate for nomination for election, or for election, to federal elective office.

Amends FECA to: (1) empower the Federal Election Commission (FEC) to petition the U.S. Supreme Court for a writ of certiorari to appeal a civil action; (2) require all designations, statements, and reports required to be filed under FECA to be filed directly with the FEC, and in computer-accessible electronic form; and (3) reduce from 48 to 24 hours after their receipt the deadline for the FEC to make designations, statements, reports, or notifications available to the public in the FEC office and on the Internet.

Actions Timeline

- **Mar 31, 2009:** Introduced in Senate
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