

## S 1517

21st Century WPA Act

**Congress:** 112 (2011–2013, Ended)

**Chamber:** Senate

**Policy Area:** Labor and Employment

**Introduced:** Sep 7, 2011

**Current Status:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.

**Latest Action:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance. (Sep 7, 2011)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/112th-congress/senate-bill/1517>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Sen. Lautenberg, Frank R. [D-NJ]

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

### Cosponsors (5 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Blumenthal, Richard [D-CT]	D · CT		Sep 7, 2011
Sen. Harkin, Tom [D-IA]	D · IA		Sep 7, 2011
Sen. Reed, Jack [D-RI]	D · RI		Sep 7, 2011
Sen. Sanders, Bernard [I-VT]	I · VT		Sep 7, 2011
Sen. Begich, Mark [D-AK]	D · AK		Sep 16, 2011

### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Finance Committee	Senate	Referred To	Sep 7, 2011

### Subjects & Policy Tags

**Policy Area:**

Labor and Employment

### Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
112 HR 3105	Related bill	Oct 5, 2011: Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means.
112 HR 417	Related bill	Jan 25, 2011: Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means.

21st Century WPA Act - Establishes within the Department of Labor a Works Progress Administration (WPA).

Requires eligible federal departments to submit to the WPA proposals for works projects that produce a high number of employee hours per dollar of the total project cost, and meet certain other criteria.

Permits such projects to include: (1) residential and commercial building weatherization projects; (2) residential and commercial water use efficiency improvement projects; (3) highway, bridge, and rail repair and maintenance projects; (4) manufacturing projects; (5) school, library, and firehouse construction projects; (6) soil erosion and pesticide runoff prevention projects; and (7) trail maintenance projects.

Makes an employer who is unable to hire an individual to fill a job position that has been vacant for 90 days eligible to enter into an agreement with the WPA to provide training to a WPA fellow in order to become qualified to fill such position. Prescribes WPA fellowship program requirements.

Authorizes the Secretary of Labor to transfer amounts appropriated under this Act to the Attorney General and to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for grants for the hiring of eligible public safety individuals.

Amends the Internal Revenue Code to impose a 5.4% surcharge on individual taxpayers whose modified adjusted gross income exceeds \$1 million (\$2 million for joint returns). Dedicates amounts collected from such surcharge to federal deficit reduction.

---

## **Actions Timeline**

- **Sep 7, 2011:** Introduced in Senate
- **Sep 7, 2011:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.