

S 2017

Democracy Restoration Act of 2011

Congress: 112 (2011–2013, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Civil Rights and Liberties, Minority Issues

Introduced: Dec 16, 2011

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

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. (Dec 16, 2011)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/112th-congress/senate-bill/2017>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Cardin, Benjamin L. [D-MD]

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

Cosponsors (4 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Durbin, Richard J. [D-IL]	D · IL		Dec 16, 2011
Sen. Whitehouse, Sheldon [D-RI]	D · RI		Dec 16, 2011
Sen. Sanders, Bernard [I-VT]	I · VT		Feb 16, 2012
Sen. Harkin, Tom [D-IA]	D · IA		May 10, 2012

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Judiciary Committee	Senate	Referred To	Dec 16, 2011

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Civil Rights and Liberties, Minority Issues

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
112 HR 5799	Related bill	Sep 26, 2012: Referred to the Subcommittee on Higher Education and Workforce Training.
112 S 3608	Related bill	Sep 21, 2012: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration.
112 HR 2212	Related bill	Aug 25, 2011: Referred to the Subcommittee on the Constitution.

Democracy Restoration Act of 2011 - 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

- **Dec 16, 2011:** Introduced in Senate
- **Dec 16, 2011:** Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR S8737-8738)
- **Dec 16, 2011:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.