

## S 1467

FISA Court Reform Act of 2013

**Congress:** 113 (2013–2015, Ended)

**Chamber:** Senate

**Policy Area:** Crime and Law Enforcement

**Introduced:** Aug 1, 2013

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

**Latest Action:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. (Aug 1, 2013)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/113th-congress/senate-bill/1467>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Sen. Blumenthal, Richard [D-CT]

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

### Cosponsors (18 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Baldwin, Tammy [D-WI]	D · WI		Aug 1, 2013
Sen. Coons, Christopher A. [D-DE]	D · DE		Aug 1, 2013
Sen. Franken, Al [D-MN]	D · MN		Aug 1, 2013
Sen. Gillibrand, Kirsten E. [D-NY]	D · NY		Aug 1, 2013
Sen. Heinrich, Martin [D-NM]	D · NM		Aug 1, 2013
Sen. Hirono, Mazie K. [D-HI]	D · HI		Aug 1, 2013
Sen. Markey, Edward J. [D-MA]	D · MA		Aug 1, 2013
Sen. Merkley, Jeff [D-OR]	D · OR		Aug 1, 2013
Sen. Murray, Patty [D-WA]	D · WA		Aug 1, 2013
Sen. Schatz, Brian [D-HI]	D · HI		Aug 1, 2013
Sen. Tester, Jon [D-MT]	D · MT		Aug 1, 2013
Sen. Udall, Mark [D-CO]	D · CO		Aug 1, 2013
Sen. Udall, Tom [D-NM]	D · NM		Aug 1, 2013
Sen. Whitehouse, Sheldon [D-RI]	D · RI		Aug 1, 2013
Sen. Wyden, Ron [D-OR]	D · OR		Aug 1, 2013
Sen. Harkin, Tom [D-IA]	D · IA		Oct 2, 2013
Sen. Shaheen, Jeanne [D-NH]	D · NH		Jan 7, 2014
Sen. Durbin, Richard J. [D-IL]	D · IL		Jan 29, 2014

### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Judiciary Committee	Senate	Referred To	Aug 1, 2013

## Subjects & Policy Tags

### Policy Area:

Crime and Law Enforcement

### Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
113 HR 3361	Related bill	<b>Jun 5, 2014:</b> Select Committee on Intelligence. Hearings held.
113 HR 3228	Related bill	<b>Oct 15, 2013:</b> Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, and Investigations.
113 S 1551	Related bill	<b>Sep 25, 2013:</b> Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

### Summary (as of Aug 1, 2013)

FISA Court Reform Act of 2013 - Establishes as an independent establishment in the executive branch an Office of the Special Advocate to protect individual rights by advocating in cases before courts established by the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978 (FISA) in support of legal interpretations that minimize the scope of surveillance and the extent of data collection and retention.

Directs the presiding judge of the FISA Court of Review to appoint a Special Advocate to serve as the head of such Office from a list of candidates submitted by the Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board.

Requires the Special Advocate to: (1) review each application to the FISA Court by the Attorney General and each decision of the FISA Court or the FISA Court of Review, and (2) participate in proceedings before the FISA Court when appointed to participate by such Court.

Permits the Special Advocate to request to participate in such proceedings, request reconsideration of FISA Court decisions, and appeal or seek review of FISA Court or FISA Court of Review decisions.

Directs such Courts to promulgate rules to provide the public with information sufficient to allow interested parties to participate as amicus curiae.

Authorizes the Special Advocate to seek a writ of certiorari from the Supreme Court for review of any decision of the FISA Court of Review.

Requires the Attorney General to publicly disclose: (1) all decisions issued by the FISA Court or the FISA Court of Review after July 10, 2003, that include a significant construction or interpretation of law, (2) any decision of the FISA Court appealed by the Special Advocate, and (3) any FISA Court of Review decision issued after an appeal by the Special Advocate. Provides for the release of as much information regarding the facts and analysis in such decisions as is consistent with legitimate national security concerns.

Permits the Special Advocate to petition the FISA Court or FISA Court of Review for the public disclosure of decisions and related documents previously designated as classified or for the release of an unclassified summary of such materials.

### Actions Timeline

- **Aug 1, 2013:** Introduced in Senate
- **Aug 1, 2013:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.