

S 553

End Modern Slavery Initiative Act of 2015

Congress: 114 (2015–2017, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: International Affairs

Introduced: Feb 24, 2015

Current Status: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 363.

Latest Action: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 363. (Feb 3, 2016)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/senate-bill/553>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Corker, Bob [R-TN]

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

Cosponsors (40 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Alexander, Lamar [R-TN]	R · TN		Feb 24, 2015
Sen. Ayotte, Kelly [R-NH]	R · NH		Feb 24, 2015
Sen. Blumenthal, Richard [D-CT]	D · CT		Feb 24, 2015
Sen. Cardin, Benjamin L. [D-MD]	D · MD		Feb 24, 2015
Sen. Coons, Christopher A. [D-DE]	D · DE		Feb 24, 2015
Sen. Kirk, Mark Steven [R-IL]	R · IL		Feb 24, 2015
Sen. McCain, John [R-AZ]	R · AZ		Feb 24, 2015
Sen. Menendez, Robert [D-NJ]	D · NJ		Feb 24, 2015
Sen. Portman, Rob [R-OH]	R · OH		Feb 24, 2015
Sen. Rubio, Marco [R-FL]	R · FL		Feb 24, 2015
Sen. Shaheen, Jeanne [D-NH]	D · NH		Feb 24, 2015
Sen. Isakson, Johnny [R-GA]	R · GA		Feb 25, 2015
Sen. Cochran, Thad [R-MS]	R · MS		Mar 4, 2015
Sen. Udall, Tom [D-NM]	D · NM		Apr 21, 2015
Sen. Heitkamp, Heidi [D-ND]	D · ND		Apr 23, 2015
Sen. Peters, Gary C. [D-MI]	D · MI		Apr 23, 2015
Sen. Schatz, Brian [D-HI]	D · HI		Jun 1, 2015
Sen. Collins, Susan M. [R-ME]	R · ME		Sep 22, 2015
Sen. Markey, Edward J. [D-MA]	D · MA		Sep 22, 2015
Sen. Warren, Elizabeth [D-MA]	D · MA		Sep 29, 2015
Sen. Stabenow, Debbie [D-MI]	D · MI		Sep 30, 2015
Sen. Cantwell, Maria [D-WA]	D · WA		Oct 5, 2015
Sen. Burr, Richard [R-NC]	R · NC		Oct 22, 2015
Sen. Hirono, Mazie K. [D-HI]	D · HI		Nov 5, 2015
Sen. Tillis, Thomas [R-NC]	R · NC		Nov 10, 2015
Sen. Nelson, Bill [D-FL]	D · FL		Nov 16, 2015
Sen. Reed, Jack [D-RI]	D · RI		Dec 3, 2015
Sen. Brown, Sherrod [D-OH]	D · OH		Jan 11, 2016
Sen. Feinstein, Dianne [D-CA]	D · CA		Jan 11, 2016
Sen. Gillibrand, Kirsten E. [D-NY]	D · NY		Jan 11, 2016
Sen. Merkley, Jeff [D-OR]	D · OR		Jan 11, 2016
Sen. Murphy, Christopher [D-CT]	D · CT		Jan 11, 2016
Sen. Baldwin, Tammy [D-WI]	D · WI		Jan 12, 2016
Sen. Wyden, Ron [D-OR]	D · OR		Feb 25, 2016
Sen. Klobuchar, Amy [D-MN]	D · MN		Feb 29, 2016
Sen. Heinrich, Martin [D-NM]	D · NM		Mar 9, 2016
Sen. Whitehouse, Sheldon [D-RI]	D · RI		Mar 10, 2016
Sen. King, Angus S., Jr. [I-ME]	I · ME		Mar 16, 2016
Sen. Cassidy, Bill [R-LA]	R · LA		May 16, 2016
Sen. Durbin, Richard J. [D-IL]	D · IL		Jun 20, 2016

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Foreign Relations Committee	Senate	Reported By	Feb 3, 2016

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

International Affairs

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

End Modern Slavery Initiative Act of 2015

(Sec. 2) This bill expresses the sense of Congress that:

- the United States has a long history of domestic and international engagement in preventing and responding to modern slavery;
- modern slavery involves extensive criminal activity and demands U.S. attention and commitment;
- the United States must exert all efforts to eradicate modern-day slavery domestically;
- there is a need for international public and private cooperation to increase resources for programs to reduce the prevalence of modern slavery by building the capacity of foreign governments to deter its perpetrators; and
- countries that fall within the first and second tiers of the Department of State's annual Trafficking in Persons report could qualify as partner countries, and many countries on the Tier 2 watch list may also qualify and should be eligible for funding as partner countries.

(Sec. 3) The bill also declares U.S. policy to:

- marshal resources to seek to end modern slavery through matching funds to a private grant-making institution that selects and supports innovative strategies,
- allow such a private grant-making institution the flexibility to work in other committed countries, and
- through U.S. foreign assistance programs help other countries with a high prevalence of modern slavery become eligible to be partner countries for additional assistance under the End Modern Slavery Initiative established by this Act.

(Sec. 4) The bill establishes the End Modern Slavery Initiative Foundation to work with government, civil society, and private institutions in partner countries and key jurisdictions of other countries supported by the Foundation with a high prevalence of modern slavery to identify and fund successful strategies to combat modern slavery.

(Sec. 5) The Department of State may make grants to the Foundation or to another nonprofit organization meeting certain criteria that seeks to receive foreign government contributions in a ratio of two-to-one and private sector contributions in a ratio of three-to-one to U.S. government funding.

The bill authorizes FY2015-FY2022 appropriations.

(Sec. 6) The U.S. government shall seek other foreign governments providing Foundation support to provide additional support, including diplomatic support, for projects in partner countries.

(Sec. 7) Foundation priorities shall be to:

- select partner countries and key jurisdictions in other countries,
- support programs and projects that seek to measurably reduce modern slavery in targeted populations within partner countries and key jurisdictions of other countries of at least 50% over a seven-year period,
- prioritize programs and projects,
- work with funded partner countries and entities to establish budgeted national plans that leverage partner country public and private funding and institutions, and
- establish national coordinators and leadership councils in partner countries.

(Sec. 8) The bill prescribes program monitoring and evaluation requirements.

(Sec. 9) The Government Accountability Office shall report to Congress on all of the programs conducted by the State Department, the U.S. Agency for International Development, the Department of Labor, the Department of Defense, and the Department of the Treasury that address human trafficking and modern slavery.

Actions Timeline

- **Feb 3, 2016:** Committee on Foreign Relations. Reported by Senator Corker with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. Without written report.
- **Feb 3, 2016:** Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 363.
- **Feb 26, 2015:** Committee on Foreign Relations. Ordered to be reported without amendment favorably.
- **Feb 24, 2015:** Introduced in Senate
- **Feb 24, 2015:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.