

## S 772

### Democracy Restoration Act of 2015

**Congress:** 114 (2015–2017, Ended)

**Chamber:** Senate

**Policy Area:** Civil Rights and Liberties, Minority Issues

**Introduced:** Mar 18, 2015

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

**Latest Action:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. (Mar 18, 2015)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/senate-bill/772>

## Sponsor

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

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

## Cosponsors (17 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Booker, Cory A. [D-NJ]	D · NJ		Mar 18, 2015
Sen. Brown, Sherrod [D-OH]	D · OH		Mar 18, 2015
Sen. Durbin, Richard J. [D-IL]	D · IL		Mar 18, 2015
Sen. Gillibrand, Kirsten E. [D-NY]	D · NY		Mar 18, 2015
Sen. Leahy, Patrick J. [D-VT]	D · VT		Mar 18, 2015
Sen. Mikulski, Barbara A. [D-MD]	D · MD		Mar 18, 2015
Sen. Reid, Harry [D-NV]	D · NV		Mar 18, 2015
Sen. Sanders, Bernard [I-VT]	I · VT		Mar 18, 2015
Sen. Whitehouse, Sheldon [D-RI]	D · RI		Mar 18, 2015
Sen. Franken, Al [D-MN]	D · MN		May 7, 2015
Sen. Casey, Robert P., Jr. [D-PA]	D · PA		Apr 28, 2016
Sen. Blumenthal, Richard [D-CT]	D · CT		May 23, 2016
Sen. Hirono, Mazie K. [D-HI]	D · HI		Jul 12, 2016
Sen. Merkley, Jeff [D-OR]	D · OR		Jul 12, 2016
Sen. Schatz, Brian [D-HI]	D · HI		Jul 12, 2016
Sen. Coons, Christopher A. [D-DE]	D · DE		Jul 13, 2016
Sen. Warren, Elizabeth [D-MA]	D · MA		Sep 7, 2016

## Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Judiciary Committee	Senate	Referred To	Mar 18, 2015

## Subjects & Policy Tags

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### Policy Area:

Civil Rights and Liberties, Minority Issues

### Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
114 S 1610	Related bill	<b>Jun 18, 2015:</b> Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. (Sponsor introductory remarks on measure: CR S4302)
114 HR 1459	Identical bill	<b>Apr 21, 2015:</b> Referred to the Subcommittee on the Constitution and Civil Justice.
114 HR 1556	Related bill	<b>Apr 21, 2015:</b> Referred to the Subcommittee on the Constitution and Civil Justice.
114 S 457	Related bill	<b>Feb 11, 2015:</b> Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

### Summary (as of Mar 18, 2015)

#### Democracy Restoration Act of 2015

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 of, and remedies for violations of, this Act.

Prohibits this Act from being 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. Declares that 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.

Sets forth requirements for state and federal notification of individuals of the restoration of their voting rights.

Prohibits any state, local government, or other person from receiving or using any federal funds to construct or improve a place of incarceration unless that person has in effect a program to notify each U.S. citizen incarcerated in that person's jurisdiction, upon release from such incarceration, of that individual's rights under this Act.

### Actions Timeline

- **Mar 18, 2015:** Introduced in Senate
- **Mar 18, 2015:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.