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Bill Fact Sheet – December 12, 2025 https://legilist.com Bill page: https://legilist.com/bill/115/s/1588

S 1588

Democracy Restoration Act of 2017 Congress: 115 (2017–2019, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Civil Rights and Liberties, Minority Issues

Introduced: Jul 19, 2017

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

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. (Jul 19, 2017)

Official Text: https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/senate-bill/1588

Sponsor

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

Party: Democratic • State: MD • Chamber: Senate

Cosponsors (21 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Blumenthal, Richard [D-CT]	D · CT		Jul 19, 2017
Sen. Booker, Cory A. [D-NJ]	D · NJ		Jul 19, 2017
Sen. Brown, Sherrod [D-OH]	D · OH		Jul 19, 2017
Sen. Casey, Robert P., Jr. [D-PA]	D · PA		Jul 19, 2017
Sen. Coons, Christopher A. [D-DE]	D · DE		Jul 19, 2017
Sen. Duckworth, Tammy [D-IL]	D·IL		Jul 19, 2017
Sen. Durbin, Richard J. [D-IL]	D·IL		Jul 19, 2017
Sen. Franken, AI [D-MN]	D · MN		Jul 19, 2017
Sen. Harris, Kamala D. [D-CA]	D · CA		Jul 19, 2017
Sen. Hirono, Mazie K. [D-HI]	D · HI		Jul 19, 2017
Sen. Leahy, Patrick J. [D-VT]	D · VT		Jul 19, 2017
Sen. Markey, Edward J. [D-MA]	D · MA		Jul 19, 2017
Sen. Sanders, Bernard [I-VT]	I · VT		Jul 19, 2017
Sen. Van Hollen, Chris [D-MD]	$D\cdotMD$		Jul 19, 2017
Sen. Warren, Elizabeth [D-MA]	D · MA		Jul 19, 2017
Sen. Whitehouse, Sheldon [D-RI]	D · RI		Jul 19, 2017
Sen. Wyden, Ron [D-OR]	D · OR		Jul 19, 2017
Sen. Gillibrand, Kirsten E. [D-NY]	D · NY		Jul 20, 2017
Sen. Merkley, Jeff [D-OR]	D · OR		Jul 20, 2017
Sen. Smith, Tina [D-MN]	D · MN		Jan 10, 2018
Sen. Reed, Jack [D-RI]	D · RI		Jul 26, 2018

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Judiciary Committee	Senate	Referred To	Jul 19, 2017

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Civil Rights and Liberties, Minority Issues

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
115 HR 6612	Related bill	Jul 26, 2018: Referred to the Subcommittee on the Constitution and Civil Justice.

Summary (as of Jul 19, 2017)

Democracy Restoration Act of 2017

This bill establishes that an individual's right to vote in a federal election may not be abridged due to a criminal conviction unless the individual is incarcerated for a felony sentence at the time of the election. The bill also (1) requires incarcerated individuals to be notified of the restoration of their voting rights upon release, and (2) prohibits states and local governments that do not comply with this bill from receiving federal funds for constructing or improving prisons.

Actions Timeline

- Jul 19, 2017: Introduced in Senate
- Jul 19, 2017: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.