

S 1540

Election Security Act of 2019

Congress: 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Government Operations and Politics

Introduced: May 16, 2019

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

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration. (May 16, 2019)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/senate-bill/1540>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Klobuchar, Amy [D-MN]

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

Cosponsors (40 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Baldwin, Tammy [D-WI]	D · WI		May 16, 2019
Sen. Bennet, Michael F. [D-CO]	D · CO		May 16, 2019
Sen. Blumenthal, Richard [D-CT]	D · CT		May 16, 2019
Sen. Booker, Cory A. [D-NJ]	D · NJ		May 16, 2019
Sen. Brown, Sherrod [D-OH]	D · OH		May 16, 2019
Sen. Cardin, Benjamin L. [D-MD]	D · MD		May 16, 2019
Sen. Carper, Thomas R. [D-DE]	D · DE		May 16, 2019
Sen. Casey, Robert P., Jr. [D-PA]	D · PA		May 16, 2019
Sen. Coons, Christopher A. [D-DE]	D · DE		May 16, 2019
Sen. Duckworth, Tammy [D-IL]	D · IL		May 16, 2019
Sen. Durbin, Richard J. [D-IL]	D · IL		May 16, 2019
Sen. Feinstein, Dianne [D-CA]	D · CA		May 16, 2019
Sen. Gillibrand, Kirsten E. [D-NY]	D · NY		May 16, 2019
Sen. Harris, Kamala D. [D-CA]	D · CA		May 16, 2019
Sen. Hassan, Margaret Wood [D-NH]	D · NH		May 16, 2019
Sen. Heinrich, Martin [D-NM]	D · NM		May 16, 2019
Sen. Hirono, Mazie K. [D-HI]	D · HI		May 16, 2019
Sen. Jones, Doug [D-AL]	D · AL		May 16, 2019
Sen. Kaine, Tim [D-VA]	D · VA		May 16, 2019
Sen. King, Angus S., Jr. [I-ME]	I · ME		May 16, 2019
Sen. Leahy, Patrick J. [D-VT]	D · VT		May 16, 2019
Sen. Markey, Edward J. [D-MA]	D · MA		May 16, 2019
Sen. Merkley, Jeff [D-OR]	D · OR		May 16, 2019
Sen. Murray, Patty [D-WA]	D · WA		May 16, 2019
Sen. Peters, Gary C. [D-MI]	D · MI		May 16, 2019
Sen. Reed, Jack [D-RI]	D · RI		May 16, 2019
Sen. Rosen, Jacky [D-NV]	D · NV		May 16, 2019
Sen. Sanders, Bernard [I-VT]	I · VT		May 16, 2019
Sen. Schatz, Brian [D-HI]	D · HI		May 16, 2019
Sen. Schumer, Charles E. [D-NY]	D · NY		May 16, 2019
Sen. Shaheen, Jeanne [D-NH]	D · NH		May 16, 2019
Sen. Smith, Tina [D-MN]	D · MN		May 16, 2019
Sen. Stabenow, Debbie [D-MI]	D · MI		May 16, 2019
Sen. Tester, Jon [D-MT]	D · MT		May 16, 2019
Sen. Udall, Tom [D-NM]	D · NM		May 16, 2019
Sen. Van Hollen, Chris [D-MD]	D · MD		May 16, 2019
Sen. Warner, Mark R. [D-VA]	D · VA		May 16, 2019
Sen. Warren, Elizabeth [D-MA]	D · MA		May 16, 2019
Sen. Murphy, Christopher [D-CT]	D · CT		May 21, 2019
Sen. Cortez Masto, Catherine [D-NV]	D · NV		Jun 11, 2019

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Rules and Administration Committee	Senate	Referred To	May 16, 2019

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Government Operations and Politics

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
116 HR 8697	Related bill	Oct 27, 2020: Referred to the House Committee on Intelligence (Permanent Select).
116 HR 2660	Related bill	Jun 28, 2019: Referred to the Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights, and Civil Liberties.
116 HR 2722	Related bill	Jun 28, 2019: Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration.
116 S 2053	Related bill	Jun 28, 2019: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration.
116 HR 2652	Related bill	May 9, 2019: Referred to the House Committee on House Administration.
116 S 949	Related bill	Mar 28, 2019: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.
116 HR 1	Related bill	Mar 14, 2019: Read the second time. Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 39.

Summary (as of May 16, 2019)

Election Security Act of 2019

This bill addresses election security through grant programs and requirements for voting systems and paper ballots.

The bill establishes requirements for voting systems, including that systems (1) use individual, durable, voter-verified paper ballots; (2) make a voter's marked ballot available for inspection and verification by the voter before the vote is cast; (3) ensure that individuals with disabilities are given an equivalent opportunity to vote, including with privacy and independence, in a manner that produces a voter-verified paper ballot; and (4) be manufactured in the United States.

The Election Assistance Commission (EAC) must award grants to study, test, and develop accessible voter-verified paper ballot voting and best practices to enhance the accessibility of such voting for individuals with disabilities, for voters whose primary language is not English, and for voters with difficulties in literacy.

The EAC must award grants to states to (1) replace certain voting systems, carry out voting system security improvements, and implement and model best practices for ballot design, ballot instructions, and the testing of ballots; and (2) conduct risk-limiting audits.

The bill provides for information sharing with states regarding threats to election infrastructure.

The Department of Homeland Security must issue a national strategy to protect against cyberattacks, influence operations, disinformation campaigns, and other activities that could undermine the security and integrity of democratic institutions.

The EAC must provide for the testing of voting system hardware and software and decertify such technology that does not meet guidelines.

Actions Timeline

- **May 16, 2019:** Introduced in Senate
- **May 16, 2019:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration.