

S 4338

Safe Line Speeds During COVID–19 Act of 2020

Congress: 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Agriculture and Food

Introduced: Jul 28, 2020

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry. (Jul 28, 2020)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/senate-bill/4338>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Booker, Cory A. [D-NJ]

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

Cosponsors (11 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Blumenthal, Richard [D-CT]	D · CT		Jul 28, 2020
Sen. Feinstein, Dianne [D-CA]	D · CA		Jul 28, 2020
Sen. Harris, Kamala D. [D-CA]	D · CA		Jul 28, 2020
Sen. Merkley, Jeff [D-OR]	D · OR		Jul 28, 2020
Sen. Sanders, Bernard [I-VT]	I · VT		Jul 28, 2020
Sen. Warren, Elizabeth [D-MA]	D · MA		Jul 28, 2020
Sen. Murray, Patty [D-WA]	D · WA		Jul 29, 2020
Sen. Brown, Sherrod [D-OH]	D · OH		Aug 6, 2020
Sen. Baldwin, Tammy [D-WI]	D · WI		Sep 10, 2020
Sen. Casey, Robert P., Jr. [D-PA]	D · PA		Oct 19, 2020
Sen. Markey, Edward J. [D-MA]	D · MA		Oct 19, 2020

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry Committee	Senate	Referred To	Jul 28, 2020

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Agriculture and Food

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Safe Line Speeds During COVID-19 Act of 2020

This bill directs the Food Safety and Inspection Service of the Department of Agriculture (USDA) to temporarily suspend any waivers and not issue new waivers related to line speeds in meat and poultry establishments and inspection staffing requirements for such establishments through 90 days after the date on which the COVID-19 (i.e., coronavirus disease 2019) emergency period is lifted. Additionally, the implementation of, and conversion to, the New Swine Slaughter Inspection System must be suspended.

No funds made available to USDA during such period shall be used to develop, propose, finalize, issue, amend, or implement any policy, regulation, directive, constituent update, or any other agency program that would increase line speeds at meat and poultry establishments.

Not later than 90 days after the end of the period, the Government Accountability Office shall conduct a review of actions taken by specific federal agencies, including USDA, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic to determine the effectiveness of such actions in protecting animal, food, and worker safety.

Actions Timeline

- **Jul 28, 2020:** Introduced in Senate
- **Jul 28, 2020:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.