

S 4401

Environmental Justice For All Act

Congress: 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Environmental Protection

Introduced: Aug 3, 2020

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works. (Aug 3, 2020)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/senate-bill/4401>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Harris, Kamala D. [D-CA]

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

Cosponsors (14 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Blumenthal, Richard [D-CT]	D · CT		Aug 3, 2020
Sen. Booker, Cory A. [D-NJ]	D · NJ		Aug 3, 2020
Sen. Duckworth, Tammy [D-IL]	D · IL		Aug 3, 2020
Sen. Durbin, Richard J. [D-IL]	D · IL		Aug 3, 2020
Sen. Feinstein, Dianne [D-CA]	D · CA		Aug 3, 2020
Sen. Gillibrand, Kirsten E. [D-NY]	D · NY		Aug 3, 2020
Sen. Markey, Edward J. [D-MA]	D · MA		Aug 3, 2020
Sen. Merkley, Jeff [D-OR]	D · OR		Aug 3, 2020
Sen. Schatz, Brian [D-HI]	D · HI		Aug 3, 2020
Sen. Smith, Tina [D-MN]	D · MN		Aug 3, 2020
Sen. Udall, Tom [D-NM]	D · NM		Aug 3, 2020
Sen. Warren, Elizabeth [D-MA]	D · MA		Aug 3, 2020
Sen. Wyden, Ron [D-OR]	D · OR		Aug 3, 2020
Sen. Sanders, Bernard [I-VT]	I · VT		Aug 5, 2020

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Environment and Public Works Committee	Senate	Referred To	Aug 3, 2020

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Environmental Protection

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
116 HR 5986	Related bill	Oct 1, 2020: Committee Hearings Held.
116 HR 4512	Related bill	Feb 27, 2020: Subcommittee Hearings Held.
116 HR 729	Related bill	Dec 12, 2019: Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.
116 HR 4273	Related bill	Sep 11, 2019: Referred to the Subcommittee on Highways and Transit.
116 S 2467	Related bill	Sep 11, 2019: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.
116 S 1458	Related bill	May 14, 2019: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.
116 HR 2268	Related bill	Apr 11, 2019: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.
116 HR 1334	Related bill	Mar 11, 2019: Referred to the Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests, and Public Lands.

Summary (as of Aug 3, 2020)

Environmental Justice For All Act

This bill establishes several environmental justice requirements, advisory bodies, and programs to address the disproportionate adverse human health or environmental effects of federal laws or programs on communities of color, low-income communities, or tribal and indigenous communities.

Specifically, the bill prohibits disparate impacts on the basis of race, color, or national origin as discrimination. Aggrieved persons may seek legal remedy when faced with such discrimination.

In addition, the bill directs agencies to follow certain requirements concerning environmental justice. For example, agencies must prepare community impact reports that assess the potential impacts of their actions on environmental justice communities under certain circumstances.

Further, it creates a variety of advisory bodies and positions, such as the Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice Compliance and Enforcement. Among other things, the group must issue an environmental justice strategy.

It also establishes requirements and programs concerning chemicals or toxic ingredients in certain products. For example, the bill (1) requires certain products (e.g., cosmetics) to include a list of ingredients or warnings; and (2) provides grants for research on designing safer alternatives to chemicals in certain consumer, cleaning, toy, or baby products that have an inherent toxicity or that are associated with chronic adverse health effects.

Finally, it creates a variety of funding programs, such as a grant program to enhance access to park and recreational opportunities in an urban areas.

Actions Timeline

- **Aug 3, 2020:** Introduced in Senate
- **Aug 3, 2020:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.