

S 4893

Protect Election Integrity Act of 2020

Congress: 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Government Operations and Politics

Introduced: Nov 12, 2020

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. (Nov 12, 2020)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/senate-bill/4893>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Hawley, Josh [R-MO]

Party: Republican • **State:** MO • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors

No cosponsors are listed for this bill.

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Rules and Administration Committee	Senate	Referred To	Nov 12, 2020

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Government Operations and Politics

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
116 HR 8753	Identical bill	Nov 16, 2020: Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on House Administration, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

Protect Election Integrity Act of 2020

This bill requires states to establish certain election measures. It also prohibits ballot harvesting in federal elections.

Specifically, the bill requires each state, in order to receive certain election assistance funds, to

- prohibit the knowing collection and transmission of a ballot that was mailed to another person (commonly referred to as ballot harvesting), with exceptions;
- permit poll watching by at least two appointed campaign representatives per campaign;
- require absentee and mail-in ballots to be counted and recorded immediately upon receipt without disclosing any results until after the closure of polling places on election day;
- require continuous counting of ballots after the closure of polling places on election day;
- install video surveillance of ballot drop boxes;
- require each supervisor of elections to make publicly available a report outlining preparations for the upcoming general election; and
- require an audit of municipal voting systems.

Finally, the bill generally prohibits ballot harvesting in federal elections, which is the process of collecting vote-by-mail ballots from voters and returning them to the polling place or election office. A violator is subject to criminal penalties—a fine, a prison term of up to five years, or both.

Actions Timeline

- **Nov 12, 2020:** Introduced in Senate
- **Nov 12, 2020:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

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