

S 1041

RENACER Act

Congress: 117 (2021–2023, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: International Affairs

Introduced: Mar 25, 2021

Current Status: Held at the desk.

Latest Action: Held at the desk. (Aug 10, 2021)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/senate-bill/1041>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Menendez, Robert [D-NJ]

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

Cosponsors (6 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Cardin, Benjamin L. [D-MD]	D · MD		Mar 25, 2021
Sen. Durbin, Richard J. [D-IL]	D · IL		Mar 25, 2021
Sen. Kaine, Tim [D-VA]	D · VA		Mar 25, 2021
Sen. Murphy, Christopher [D-CT]	D · CT		Mar 25, 2021
Sen. Rubio, Marco [R-FL]	R · FL		Mar 25, 2021
Sen. Cruz, Ted [R-TX]	R · TX		Jun 22, 2021

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Foreign Relations Committee	Senate	Reported By	Jun 24, 2021

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

International Affairs

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
117 S 1064	Related bill	Nov 10, 2021: Became Public Law No: 117-54.
117 HR 2946	Identical bill	Nov 9, 2021: Referred to the Subcommittee on Immigration and Citizenship.

Reinforcing Nicaragua's Adherence to Conditions for Electoral Reform Act of 2021 or the RENACER Act

This bill establishes measures to monitor, report on, and address corruption and human rights abuses in Nicaragua.

Specifically, the bill directs U.S. leadership at international financial institutions to advocate for oversight with respect to any loan or financial or technical assistance for projects in Nicaragua.

The Department of State and the Department of the Treasury must establish a strategy to align diplomatic engagement with implementing sanctions to facilitate free, fair, and transparent elections in Nicaragua. Pursuant to this strategy, the President must prioritize implementing targeted sanctions on persons obstructing such elections. The State Department must also engage in diplomatic efforts with partner countries to impose targeted sanctions on such individuals.

The bill adds Nicaragua to a list of countries whose citizens are subject to visa-blocking sanctions for knowingly engaging in (1) actions undermining democratic processes or institutions, or (2) significant corruption or obstruction of investigations into such corruption.

Further, the bill requires the State Department to report on

- the involvement of President Daniel Ortega, members of his family, and senior government officials in significant acts of public corruption;
- Russian activities in Nicaragua; and
- gross human rights violations by the Ortega government against campesinos (i.e., natives of Latin American rural areas, especially Latin American Indian farmers or farm laborers) and indigenous communities.

In addition, the State Department must report on obstacles to news and information about domestic and international affairs and submit a strategy for strengthening independent broadcasting, information distribution, and media platforms in Nicaragua.

Actions Timeline

- **Aug 10, 2021:** Received in the House.
- **Aug 10, 2021:** Held at the desk.
- **Aug 9, 2021:** Message on Senate action sent to the House.
- **Aug 6, 2021:** Passed/agreed to in Senate: Passed Senate with an amendment by Voice Vote.(consideration: CR S5987-5989; text: CR S5987-5989)
- **Aug 6, 2021:** Passed Senate with an amendment by Voice Vote. (consideration: CR S5987-5989; text: CR S5987-5989)
- **Jun 24, 2021:** Committee on Foreign Relations. Reported by Senator Menendez with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. Without written report.
- **Jun 24, 2021:** Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 86.
- **Jun 22, 2021:** Committee on Foreign Relations. Ordered to be reported with an amendment in the nature of a substitute favorably.
- **Mar 25, 2021:** Introduced in Senate
- **Mar 25, 2021:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.