

HR 2358

Voter Empowerment Act of 2021

Congress: 117 (2021–2023, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Government Operations and Politics

Introduced: Apr 5, 2021

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights, and Civil Liberties.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights, and Civil Liberties. (Oct 19, 2021)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/2358>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Clyburn, James E. [D-SC-6]

Party: Democratic • **State:** SC • **Chamber:** House

Cosponsors (38 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Del. Norton, Eleanor Holmes [D-DC-At Large]	D · DC		Apr 5, 2021
Rep. Adams, Alma S. [D-NC-12]	D · NC		Apr 5, 2021
Rep. Barragan, Nanette Diaz [D-CA-44]	D · CA		Apr 5, 2021
Rep. Beatty, Joyce [D-OH-3]	D · OH		Apr 5, 2021
Rep. Bishop, Sanford D., Jr. [D-GA-2]	D · GA		Apr 5, 2021
Rep. Blumenauer, Earl [D-OR-3]	D · OR		Apr 5, 2021
Rep. Brown, Anthony G. [D-MD-4]	D · MD		Apr 5, 2021
Rep. Bush, Cori [D-MO-1]	D · MO		Apr 5, 2021
Rep. Courtney, Joe [D-CT-2]	D · CT		Apr 5, 2021
Rep. Demings, Val Butler [D-FL-10]	D · FL		Apr 5, 2021
Rep. Evans, Dwight [D-PA-3]	D · PA		Apr 5, 2021
Rep. Garcia, Sylvia R. [D-TX-29]	D · TX		Apr 5, 2021
Rep. Grijalva, Raúl M. [D-AZ-3]	D · AZ		Apr 5, 2021
Rep. Hastings, Alcee L. [D-FL-20]	D · FL		Apr 5, 2021
Rep. Hayes, Jahana [D-CT-5]	D · CT		Apr 5, 2021
Rep. Jayapal, Pramila [D-WA-7]	D · WA		Apr 5, 2021
Rep. Lawrence, Brenda L. [D-MI-14]	D · MI		Apr 5, 2021
Rep. Lee, Barbara [D-CA-13]	D · CA		Apr 5, 2021
Rep. McBath, Lucy [D-GA-6]	D · GA		Apr 5, 2021
Rep. McGovern, James P. [D-MA-2]	D · MA		Apr 5, 2021
Rep. Pocan, Mark [D-WI-2]	D · WI		Apr 5, 2021
Rep. Rush, Bobby L. [D-IL-1]	D · IL		Apr 5, 2021
Rep. Sarbanes, John P. [D-MD-3]	D · MD		Apr 5, 2021
Rep. Schakowsky, Janice D. [D-IL-9]	D · IL		Apr 5, 2021
Rep. Soto, Darren [D-FL-9]	D · FL		Apr 5, 2021
Rep. Takano, Mark [D-CA-41]	D · CA		Apr 5, 2021
Rep. Torres, Ritchie [D-NY-15]	D · NY		Apr 5, 2021
Rep. Trahan, Lori [D-MA-3]	D · MA		Apr 5, 2021
Rep. Welch, Peter [D-VT-At Large]	D · VT		Apr 5, 2021
Rep. Williams, Nikema [D-GA-5]	D · GA		Apr 5, 2021
Del. Sablan, Gregorio Kilili Camacho [D-MP-At Large]	D · MP		Apr 8, 2021
Rep. Sewell, Terri A. [D-AL-7]	D · AL		Apr 8, 2021
Rep. Nadler, Jerrold [D-NY-10]	D · NY		Apr 12, 2021
Rep. Carbajal, Salud O. [D-CA-24]	D · CA		May 4, 2021
Rep. Bourdeaux, Carolyn [D-GA-7]	D · GA		Jun 23, 2021
Rep. Fletcher, Lizzie [D-TX-7]	D · TX		Jul 28, 2021
Rep. Garcia, Jesus G. "Chuy" [D-IL-4]	D · IL		Nov 1, 2021
Rep. Chu, Judy [D-CA-27]	D · CA		May 10, 2022

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Committee on House Administration	House	Referred To	Apr 5, 2021
Education and Workforce Committee	House	Referred To	Apr 5, 2021
Financial Services Committee	House	Referred To	Apr 5, 2021
Judiciary Committee	House	Referred to	Oct 19, 2021
Oversight and Government Reform Committee	House	Referred To	Apr 5, 2021
Science, Space, and Technology Committee	House	Referred to	Apr 5, 2021

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Government Operations and Politics

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
117 HR 1307	Related bill	Nov 17, 2022: Ordered to be Reported in the Nature of a Substitute (Amended) by the Yeas and Nays: 34 - 5.
117 S 2093	Related bill	Sep 15, 2021: Cloture motion on the motion to proceed to the measure withdrawn by unanimous consent in Senate. (CR S6516-6517)
117 S 1	Related bill	Aug 11, 2021: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 123.
117 HR 3867	Related bill	Jun 15, 2021: Referred to the Subcommittee on Research and Technology.
117 HR 1245	Related bill	Apr 28, 2021: Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security.
117 S 954	Related bill	Mar 24, 2021: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration.
117 HR 642	Related bill	Mar 22, 2021: Referred to the Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights, and Civil Liberties.
117 HR 1	Related bill	Mar 11, 2021: Received in the Senate.
117 HR 1422	Related bill	Feb 26, 2021: Referred to the House Committee on House Administration.
117 S 481	Related bill	Feb 25, 2021: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.
117 HR 1274	Related bill	Feb 24, 2021: Referred to the House Committee on House Administration.
117 HR 1278	Related bill	Feb 24, 2021: Referred to the House Committee on House Administration.
117 HR 1059	Related bill	Feb 15, 2021: Referred to the House Committee on House Administration.
117 HR 827	Related bill	Feb 4, 2021: Referred to the House Committee on Oversight and Reform.
117 HR 775	Related bill	Feb 3, 2021: Referred to the House Committee on House Administration.
117 HR 776	Related bill	Feb 3, 2021: Referred to the House Committee on House Administration.
117 HR 639	Related bill	Feb 1, 2021: Referred to the House Committee on House Administration.
117 HR 640	Related bill	Feb 1, 2021: Referred to the House Committee on House Administration.
117 HR 641	Related bill	Feb 1, 2021: Referred to the House Committee on House Administration.
117 HR 576	Related bill	Jan 28, 2021: Referred to the House Committee on House Administration.
117 HR 222	Related bill	Jan 6, 2021: Referred to the House Committee on Oversight and Reform.
117 HR 65	Related bill	Jan 4, 2021: Referred to the House Committee on House Administration.
117 HR 126	Related bill	Jan 4, 2021: Referred to the House Committee on House Administration.

Voter Empowerment Act of 2021

This bill expands voter registration and voting access.

Specifically, the bill expands voter registration by requiring states to (1) make available online voter registration, (2) establish automatic voter registration systems, (3) permit same-day voter registration, and (4) accept voter registration applications from individuals under age 18.

Further, the bill limits removing voters from voter rolls and prohibits interference with voter registration or voting.

Next, the bill requires states to allow individuals with disabilities to use absentee registration procedures and to vote by absentee ballot in federal elections.

The bill also prohibits voter caging (the practice of sending mail to addresses on voter rolls, compiling a list of the undeliverable mail, and using the list to remove registered voters from voter rolls).

Next, the bill expands voting access by requiring states to allow early voting and voting by mail without additional conditions. It also requires states to provide secured drop boxes at which individuals may drop off their completed absentee ballots.

In addition, the bill declares that the right of a U.S. citizen to vote in any federal election shall not be denied or abridged because that individual has been convicted of a criminal offense unless, at the time of the election, such individual is serving a felony sentence.

Finally, the bill permanently reauthorizes the Election Assistance Commission (EAC). It also directs the EAC to make grants to states for specified activities, including to implement automatic voter registration systems.

Actions Timeline

- **Oct 19, 2021:** Referred to the Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights, and Civil Liberties.
- **Apr 5, 2021:** Introduced in House
- **Apr 5, 2021:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Research and Technology.
- **Apr 5, 2021:** Referred to the Committee on House Administration, and in addition to the Committees on the Judiciary, Science, Space, and Technology, Oversight and Reform, Education and Labor, and Financial Services, 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.