

S 239

American Values Act

**Congress:** 117 (2021–2023, Ended)

**Chamber:** Senate

**Policy Area:** International Affairs

**Introduced:** Feb 4, 2021

**Current Status:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

**Latest Action:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations. (Feb 4, 2021)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/senate-bill/239>

Sponsor

**Name:** Sen. Risch, James E. [R-ID]

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

Cosponsors (6 total)

| Cosponsor                  | Party / State | Role | Date Joined  |
|----------------------------|---------------|------|--------------|
| Sen. Cruz, Ted [R-TX]      | R · TX        |      | Feb 4, 2021  |
| Sen. Paul, Rand [R-KY]     | R · KY        |      | Feb 4, 2021  |
| Sen. Rubio, Marco [R-FL]   | R · FL        |      | Feb 4, 2021  |
| Sen. Young, Todd [R-IN]    | R · IN        |      | Feb 4, 2021  |
| Sen. Johnson, Ron [R-WI]   | R · WI        |      | Feb 8, 2021  |
| Sen. Tillis, Thomas [R-NC] | R · NC        |      | Feb 25, 2021 |

Committee Activity

| Committee                   | Chamber | Activity    | Date        |
|-----------------------------|---------|-------------|-------------|
| Foreign Relations Committee | Senate  | Referred To | Feb 4, 2021 |

Subjects & Policy Tags

**Policy Area:**

International Affairs

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

## American Values Act

This bill expands and makes permanent certain restrictions that prohibit the use of U.S. foreign assistance to pay for the performance or promotion of abortion services overseas.

Current law generally prohibits the use of foreign assistance for abortions through language included in appropriations bills. This bill specifically prohibits the use of any funds under the Foreign Assistance Act for (1) abortions or involuntary sterilization as methods of family planning, or (2) biomedical research that relates to these practices as methods of family planning. In addition, the bill makes permanent prohibitions on the use of such funds to (1) lobby for or against abortion, or (2) fund any organization or program that supports or participates in coercive abortion or involuntary sterilization. The bill also makes permanent a prohibition on the use of funds made available to the Peace Corps to pay for abortions.

## Actions Timeline

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- **Feb 4, 2021:** Introduced in Senate
- **Feb 4, 2021:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.