

S 253

Cannabidiol and Marihuana Research Expansion Act

Congress: 117 (2021–2023, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Crime and Law Enforcement

Introduced: Feb 4, 2021

Current Status: Held at the desk.

Latest Action: Held at the desk. (Mar 28, 2022)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/senate-bill/253>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Feinstein, Dianne [D-CA]

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

Cosponsors (10 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Durbin, Richard J. [D-IL]	D · IL		Feb 4, 2021
Sen. Ernst, Joni [R-IA]	R · IA		Feb 4, 2021
Sen. Grassley, Chuck [R-IA]	R · IA		Feb 4, 2021
Sen. Kaine, Tim [D-VA]	D · VA		Feb 4, 2021
Sen. Klobuchar, Amy [D-MN]	D · MN		Feb 4, 2021
Sen. Murkowski, Lisa [R-AK]	R · AK		Feb 4, 2021
Sen. Schatz, Brian [D-HI]	D · HI		Feb 4, 2021
Sen. Tester, Jon [D-MT]	D · MT		Feb 4, 2021
Sen. Tillis, Thomas [R-NC]	R · NC		Feb 4, 2021
Sen. Cramer, Kevin [R-ND]	R · ND		Mar 3, 2021

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Judiciary Committee	Senate	Discharged From	Mar 24, 2022

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Crime and Law Enforcement

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
117 HR 8454	Related bill	Dec 2, 2022: Became Public Law No: 117-215.

Cannabidiol and Marijuana Research Expansion Act

This bill establishes a new, separate registration process to facilitate research on marijuana.

Specifically, the bill directs the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) to follow specified procedures to register (1) practitioners to conduct marijuana research, and (2) manufacturers to supply marijuana for the research.

The bill allows certain registered entities (including institutions of higher education, practitioners, and manufacturers) to manufacture, distribute, dispense, or possess marijuana or cannabidiol (CBD) for the purposes of medical research. Additionally, the bill directs the DEA to register manufacturers and distributors of CBD or marijuana for the purpose of commercial production of an approved drug that contains marijuana or its derivative.

Finally, the bill includes various other provisions, including provisions that

- require the DEA to assess whether there is an adequate and uninterrupted supply of marijuana for research purposes;
- prohibit the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) from reinstating the interdisciplinary review process for marijuana research;
- allow physicians to discuss the potential harms and benefits of marijuana and its derivatives (including CBD) with patients; and
- require HHS, in coordination with the National Institutes of Health and relevant federal agencies, to report on the therapeutic potential of marijuana for various conditions such as epilepsy, as well as the impact on adolescent brains and on the ability to operate a motor vehicle.

Actions Timeline

- **Mar 28, 2022:** Message on Senate action sent to the House.
- **Mar 28, 2022:** Received in the House.
- **Mar 28, 2022:** Held at the desk.
- **Mar 24, 2022:** Senate Committee on the Judiciary discharged by Unanimous Consent.
- **Mar 24, 2022:** Measure laid before Senate by unanimous consent. (consideration: CR S1784)
- **Mar 24, 2022:** Passed/agreed to in Senate: Passed Senate with an amendment by Unanimous Consent.(text of amendment in the nature of a substitute: CR S1781-1783)
- **Mar 24, 2022:** Passed Senate with an amendment by Unanimous Consent. (text of amendment in the nature of a substitute: CR S1781-1783)
- **Feb 4, 2021:** Introduced in Senate
- **Feb 4, 2021:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. (Sponsor introductory remarks on measure: CR S477-478)