

## S 2553

Judiciary Accountability Act of 2021

**Congress:** 117 (2021–2023, Ended)

**Chamber:** Senate

**Policy Area:** Government Operations and Politics

**Introduced:** Jul 29, 2021

**Current Status:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. (Sponsor introductory remarks on measure:

**Latest Action:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. (Sponsor introductory remarks on measure:

CR S5180) (Jul 29, 2021)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/senate-bill/2553>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Sen. Hirono, Mazie K. [D-HI]

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

### Cosponsors (7 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Durbin, Richard J. [D-IL]	D · IL		Jul 29, 2021
Sen. Murray, Patty [D-WA]	D · WA		Jul 29, 2021
Sen. Whitehouse, Sheldon [D-RI]	D · RI		Jul 29, 2021
Sen. Blumenthal, Richard [D-CT]	D · CT		Aug 3, 2021
Sen. Warren, Elizabeth [D-MA]	D · MA		May 12, 2022
Sen. Casey, Robert P., Jr. [D-PA]	D · PA		May 18, 2022
Sen. Merkley, Jeff [D-OR]	D · OR		Sep 29, 2022

### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Judiciary Committee	Senate	Referred To	Jul 29, 2021

### Subjects & Policy Tags

#### Policy Area:

Government Operations and Politics

### Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
117 HR 4827	Identical bill	Nov 1, 2022: Referred to the Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual Property, and the Internet.

## **Judiciary Accountability Act of 2021**

This bill applies certain civil rights and employee protection laws to judicial branch employees.

Specifically, the bill applies to judicial branch employees laws that prohibit discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex (including sexual orientation or gender identity), national origin, age, or disability.

Further, the bill prohibits retaliation against whistleblowers within the judicial branch.

Additionally, the bill establishes (1) the Commission on Judicial Integrity to oversee a program to prevent workplace misconduct; (2) the Office of Judicial Integrity to oversee confidential reporting systems regarding workplace misconduct, training programs on workplace behavior and bystander intervention, and other reporting initiatives regarding employee metrics and demographics; (3) the Special Counsel for Equal Employment Opportunity to investigate alleged workplace misconduct and complaints; and (4) the Office of Employee Advocacy to provide legal assistance, representation, and consultation to judicial employees.

Finally, the bill establishes workplace discrimination, harassment, and retaliation as judicial misconduct.

## **Actions Timeline**

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- **Jul 29, 2021:** Introduced in Senate
- **Jul 29, 2021:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. (Sponsor introductory remarks on measure: CR S5180)