

S 3417

Latonya Reeves Freedom Act of 2021

Congress: 117 (2021–2023, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Civil Rights and Liberties, Minority Issues

Introduced: Dec 16, 2021

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions. (Dec 16, 2021)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/senate-bill/3417>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Bennet, Michael F. [D-CO]

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

Cosponsors (22 total)

| Cosponsor | Party / State | Role | Date Joined |
|------------------------------------|---------------|------|--------------|
| Sen. Duckworth, Tammy [D-IL] | D · IL | | Dec 16, 2021 |
| Sen. Sanders, Bernard [I-VT] | I · VT | | Dec 16, 2021 |
| Sen. Smith, Tina [D-MN] | D · MN | | Dec 16, 2021 |
| Sen. Tester, Jon [D-MT] | D · MT | | Dec 16, 2021 |
| Sen. Booker, Cory A. [D-NJ] | D · NJ | | Feb 15, 2022 |
| Sen. Hickenlooper, John W. [D-CO] | D · CO | | Mar 15, 2022 |
| Sen. Lujan, Ben Ray [D-NM] | D · NM | | May 9, 2022 |
| Sen. Reed, Jack [D-RI] | D · RI | | May 9, 2022 |
| Sen. Warren, Elizabeth [D-MA] | D · MA | | May 9, 2022 |
| Sen. Gillibrand, Kirsten E. [D-NY] | D · NY | | May 18, 2022 |
| Sen. Klobuchar, Amy [D-MN] | D · MN | | Jun 6, 2022 |
| Sen. Markey, Edward J. [D-MA] | D · MA | | Jun 13, 2022 |
| Sen. Shaheen, Jeanne [D-NH] | D · NH | | Jun 13, 2022 |
| Sen. Whitehouse, Sheldon [D-RI] | D · RI | | Jun 23, 2022 |
| Sen. Hirono, Mazie K. [D-HI] | D · HI | | Sep 29, 2022 |
| Sen. Casey, Robert P., Jr. [D-PA] | D · PA | | Nov 16, 2022 |
| Sen. Baldwin, Tammy [D-WI] | D · WI | | Nov 28, 2022 |
| Sen. Schumer, Charles E. [D-NY] | D · NY | | Dec 13, 2022 |
| Sen. Stabenow, Debbie [D-MI] | D · MI | | Dec 13, 2022 |
| Sen. Menendez, Robert [D-NJ] | D · NJ | | Dec 19, 2022 |
| Sen. Heinrich, Martin [D-NM] | D · NM | | Dec 21, 2022 |
| Sen. Wyden, Ron [D-OR] | D · OR | | Dec 21, 2022 |

Committee Activity

| Committee | Chamber | Activity | Date |
|--|---------|-------------|--------------|
| Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee | Senate | Referred To | Dec 16, 2021 |

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Civil Rights and Liberties, Minority Issues

Related Bills

| Bill | Relationship | Last Action |
|-------------|--------------|--|
| 117 HR 6860 | Related bill | Nov 1, 2022: Referred to the Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights, and Civil Liberties. |

Summary (as of Dec 16, 2021)

Latonya Reeves Freedom Act of 2021

This bill prohibits government entities and insurance providers from denying community-based services to individuals with disabilities that require long-term service or support that would enable such individuals to live in the community and lead an independent life.

Specifically, these entities may not discriminate against such individuals in the provision of community-based services by such actions as imposing prohibited eligibility criteria, cost caps, or waiting lists or failing to provide a specific community-based service. Additionally, community-based services must be offered to individuals with such disabilities prior to institutionalization. Institutionalized individuals must be notified regularly of community-based alternatives.

The bill requires the Department of Justice to issue regulations requiring government entities and insurance providers to offer community-based long-term services to individuals with such disabilities who would otherwise qualify for institutional placement. Government entities must ensure sufficient availability of affordable, accessible, and integrated housing that is not a disability-specific residential setting or a setting where services are tied to tenancy.

Regulations shall also (1) require government entities and insurance providers to perform self-evaluation on current services, policies, and practices and concerning compliance with requirements of this bill; and (2) require government entities to submit a transition plan. The bill provides funds for FY2022 for the Department of Health and Human Services to provide technical assistance with respect to transition plans.

The bill allows civil actions by individuals subjected to, or about to be subjected to, a violation of its requirements.

Actions Timeline

- Dec 16, 2021:** Introduced in Senate
- Dec 16, 2021:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.