

S 393

Equality Act

Congress: 117 (2021–2023, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Civil Rights and Liberties, Minority Issues

Introduced: Feb 23, 2021

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. (Feb 23, 2021)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/senate-bill/393>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Merkley, Jeff [D-OR]

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

Cosponsors (48 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Baldwin, Tammy [D-WI]	D · WI		Feb 23, 2021
Sen. Bennet, Michael F. [D-CO]	D · CO		Feb 23, 2021
Sen. Blumenthal, Richard [D-CT]	D · CT		Feb 23, 2021
Sen. Booker, Cory A. [D-NJ]	D · NJ		Feb 23, 2021
Sen. Brown, Sherrod [D-OH]	D · OH		Feb 23, 2021
Sen. Cantwell, Maria [D-WA]	D · WA		Feb 23, 2021
Sen. Cardin, Benjamin L. [D-MD]	D · MD		Feb 23, 2021
Sen. Carper, Thomas R. [D-DE]	D · DE		Feb 23, 2021
Sen. Casey, Robert P., Jr. [D-PA]	D · PA		Feb 23, 2021
Sen. Coons, Christopher A. [D-DE]	D · DE		Feb 23, 2021
Sen. Cortez Masto, Catherine [D-NV]	D · NV		Feb 23, 2021
Sen. Duckworth, Tammy [D-IL]	D · IL		Feb 23, 2021
Sen. Durbin, Richard J. [D-IL]	D · IL		Feb 23, 2021
Sen. Feinstein, Dianne [D-CA]	D · CA		Feb 23, 2021
Sen. Gillibrand, Kirsten E. [D-NY]	D · NY		Feb 23, 2021
Sen. Hassan, Margaret Wood [D-NH]	D · NH		Feb 23, 2021
Sen. Heinrich, Martin [D-NM]	D · NM		Feb 23, 2021
Sen. Hickenlooper, John W. [D-CO]	D · CO		Feb 23, 2021
Sen. Hirono, Mazie K. [D-HI]	D · HI		Feb 23, 2021
Sen. Kaine, Tim [D-VA]	D · VA		Feb 23, 2021
Sen. Kelly, Mark [D-AZ]	D · AZ		Feb 23, 2021
Sen. King, Angus S., Jr. [I-ME]	I · ME		Feb 23, 2021
Sen. Klobuchar, Amy [D-MN]	D · MN		Feb 23, 2021
Sen. Leahy, Patrick J. [D-VT]	D · VT		Feb 23, 2021
Sen. Lujan, Ben Ray [D-NM]	D · NM		Feb 23, 2021
Sen. Markey, Edward J. [D-MA]	D · MA		Feb 23, 2021
Sen. Menendez, Robert [D-NJ]	D · NJ		Feb 23, 2021
Sen. Murphy, Christopher [D-CT]	D · CT		Feb 23, 2021
Sen. Murray, Patty [D-WA]	D · WA		Feb 23, 2021
Sen. Ossoff, Jon [D-GA]	D · GA		Feb 23, 2021
Sen. Padilla, Alex [D-CA]	D · CA		Feb 23, 2021
Sen. Peters, Gary C. [D-MI]	D · MI		Feb 23, 2021
Sen. Reed, Jack [D-RI]	D · RI		Feb 23, 2021
Sen. Rosen, Jacky [D-NV]	D · NV		Feb 23, 2021
Sen. Sanders, Bernard [I-VT]	I · VT		Feb 23, 2021
Sen. Schatz, Brian [D-HI]	D · HI		Feb 23, 2021
Sen. Schumer, Charles E. [D-NY]	D · NY		Feb 23, 2021
Sen. Shaheen, Jeanne [D-NH]	D · NH		Feb 23, 2021
Sen. Sinema, Kyrsten [D-AZ]	D · AZ		Feb 23, 2021
Sen. Smith, Tina [D-MN]	D · MN		Feb 23, 2021
Sen. Stabenow, Debbie [D-MI]	D · MI		Feb 23, 2021

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Tester, Jon [D-MT]	D · MT		Feb 23, 2021
Sen. Van Hollen, Chris [D-MD]	D · MD		Feb 23, 2021
Sen. Warner, Mark R. [D-VA]	D · VA		Feb 23, 2021
Sen. Warnock, Raphael G. [D-GA]	D · GA		Feb 23, 2021
Sen. Warren, Elizabeth [D-MA]	D · MA		Feb 23, 2021
Sen. Whitehouse, Sheldon [D-RI]	D · RI		Feb 23, 2021
Sen. Wyden, Ron [D-OR]	D · OR		Feb 23, 2021

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Judiciary Committee	Senate	Referred To	Feb 23, 2021

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Civil Rights and Liberties, Minority Issues

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
117 HR 4286	Related bill	Nov 1, 2022: Referred to the Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights, and Civil Liberties.
117 HR 5744	Related bill	Nov 1, 2022: Referred to the Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights, and Civil Liberties.
117 HR 5	Identical bill	Mar 17, 2021: Committee on the Judiciary. Hearings held.

Summary (as of Feb 23, 2021)

Equality Act

This bill prohibits discrimination based on sex, sexual orientation, and gender identity in areas including public accommodations and facilities, education, federal funding, employment, housing, credit, and the jury system. Specifically, the bill defines and includes sex, sexual orientation, and gender identity among the prohibited categories of discrimination or segregation.

The bill expands the definition of public accommodations to include places or establishments that provide (1) exhibitions, recreation, exercise, amusement, gatherings, or displays; (2) goods, services, or programs; and (3) transportation services.

The bill allows the Department of Justice to intervene in equal protection actions in federal court on account of sexual orientation or gender identity.

The bill prohibits an individual from being denied access to a shared facility, including a restroom, a locker room, and a dressing room, that is in accordance with the individual's gender identity.

Actions Timeline

- **Feb 23, 2021:** Introduced in Senate
- **Feb 23, 2021:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.