

S 416

Restoring Integrity to America’s Elections Act

Congress: 117 (2021–2023, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Government Operations and Politics

Introduced: Feb 24, 2021

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

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration. (Feb 24, 2021)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/senate-bill/416>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Van Hollen, Chris [D-MD]

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

Cosponsors (1 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Lujan, Ben Ray [D-NM]	D · NM		Feb 24, 2021

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Rules and Administration Committee	Senate	Referred To	Feb 24, 2021

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Government Operations and Politics

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
117 S 5331	Related bill	Dec 21, 2022: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration.
117 HR 9623	Related bill	Dec 20, 2022: Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committees on Oversight and Reform, House Administration, Ways and Means, Financial Services, Intelligence (Permanent Select), Rules, Foreign Affairs, Armed Services, and the Budget, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.
117 S 5315	Related bill	Dec 20, 2022: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.
117 S 2093	Related bill	Sep 15, 2021: Cloture motion on the motion to proceed to the measure withdrawn by unanimous consent in Senate. (CR S6516-6517)
117 S 1	Related bill	Aug 11, 2021: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 123.
117 HR 1	Related bill	Mar 11, 2021: Received in the Senate.
117 HR 1414	Related bill	Feb 26, 2021: Referred to the House Committee on House Administration.

Summary (as of Feb 24, 2021)

Restoring Integrity to America's Elections Act

This bill revises provisions regarding the Federal Election Commission (FEC), including to change FEC membership.

Specifically, the bill reduces the number of appointed members of the FEC from six to five and permits no more than two members to be affiliated with the same political party. Further, it removes the Secretary of the Senate and Clerk of the House as ex officio members.

Next, the bill establishes the Blue Ribbon Advisory Panel to recommend to the President individuals for nomination to the FEC. The President shall appoint the FEC chair, subject to Senate confirmation.

The bill distributes the FEC's powers between the chair and the other FEC members. Further, it requires the FEC to ensure that its forms allow for the use of an accent mark as part of an individual's identification.

The bill modifies the process for (1) the FEC to initiate an investigation, and (2) a party aggrieved by the FEC's dismissal of the party's complaint or the FEC's failure to take action on the party's complaint to seek judicial review in federal court. Additionally, individuals who submit written comments regarding requests for advisory opinions must be given an opportunity to appear at FEC hearings on those requests.

The bill also permanently extends the FEC's administrative penalty authority.

Finally, the bill provides statutory authority for limitations on ex parte communications as applied to FEC members and employees. It also specifies that FEC attorneys may represent the FEC before the Supreme Court.

Actions Timeline

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