

## S 424

International Human Rights Defense Act of 2021

**Congress:** 117 (2021–2023, Ended)

**Chamber:** Senate

**Policy Area:** International Affairs

**Introduced:** Feb 24, 2021

**Current Status:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

**Latest Action:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations. (Feb 24, 2021)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/senate-bill/424>

### Sponsor

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**Name:** Sen. Markey, Edward J. [D-MA]

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

**Cosponsors** (42 total)

<b>Cosponsor</b>	<b>Party / State</b>	<b>Role</b>	<b>Date Joined</b>
Sen. Baldwin, Tammy [D-WI]	D · WI		Feb 24, 2021
Sen. Blumenthal, Richard [D-CT]	D · CT		Feb 24, 2021
Sen. Booker, Cory A. [D-NJ]	D · NJ		Feb 24, 2021
Sen. Brown, Sherrod [D-OH]	D · OH		Feb 24, 2021
Sen. Cantwell, Maria [D-WA]	D · WA		Feb 24, 2021
Sen. Cardin, Benjamin L. [D-MD]	D · MD		Feb 24, 2021
Sen. Casey, Robert P., Jr. [D-PA]	D · PA		Feb 24, 2021
Sen. Coons, Christopher A. [D-DE]	D · DE		Feb 24, 2021
Sen. Durbin, Richard J. [D-IL]	D · IL		Feb 24, 2021
Sen. Feinstein, Dianne [D-CA]	D · CA		Feb 24, 2021
Sen. Hirono, Mazie K. [D-HI]	D · HI		Feb 24, 2021
Sen. Kaine, Tim [D-VA]	D · VA		Feb 24, 2021
Sen. Klobuchar, Amy [D-MN]	D · MN		Feb 24, 2021
Sen. Leahy, Patrick J. [D-VT]	D · VT		Feb 24, 2021
Sen. Merkley, Jeff [D-OR]	D · OR		Feb 24, 2021
Sen. Murphy, Christopher [D-CT]	D · CT		Feb 24, 2021
Sen. Murray, Patty [D-WA]	D · WA		Feb 24, 2021
Sen. Reed, Jack [D-RI]	D · RI		Feb 24, 2021
Sen. Rosen, Jacky [D-NV]	D · NV		Feb 24, 2021
Sen. Sanders, Bernard [I-VT]	I · VT		Feb 24, 2021
Sen. Schumer, Charles E. [D-NY]	D · NY		Feb 24, 2021
Sen. Shaheen, Jeanne [D-NH]	D · NH		Feb 24, 2021
Sen. Sinema, Kyrsten [D-AZ]	D · AZ		Feb 24, 2021
Sen. Smith, Tina [D-MN]	D · MN		Feb 24, 2021
Sen. Stabenow, Debbie [D-MI]	D · MI		Feb 24, 2021
Sen. Van Hollen, Chris [D-MD]	D · MD		Feb 24, 2021
Sen. Warner, Mark R. [D-VA]	D · VA		Feb 24, 2021
Sen. Warren, Elizabeth [D-MA]	D · MA		Feb 24, 2021
Sen. Whitehouse, Sheldon [D-RI]	D · RI		Feb 24, 2021
Sen. Wyden, Ron [D-OR]	D · OR		Feb 24, 2021
Sen. Hassan, Margaret Wood [D-NH]	D · NH		Jul 12, 2022
Sen. Carper, Thomas R. [D-DE]	D · DE		Sep 6, 2022
Sen. Cortez Masto, Catherine [D-NV]	D · NV		Sep 6, 2022
Sen. Duckworth, Tammy [D-IL]	D · IL		Sep 6, 2022
Sen. Menendez, Robert [D-NJ]	D · NJ		Sep 6, 2022
Sen. Padilla, Alex [D-CA]	D · CA		Sep 6, 2022
Sen. Heinrich, Martin [D-NM]	D · NM		Sep 7, 2022
Sen. Kelly, Mark [D-AZ]	D · AZ		Sep 8, 2022
Sen. Peters, Gary C. [D-MI]	D · MI		Sep 8, 2022
Sen. Hickenlooper, John W. [D-CO]	D · CO		Sep 12, 2022
Sen. Gillibrand, Kirsten E. [D-NY]	D · NY		Sep 19, 2022

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Lujan, Ben Ray [D-NM]	D · NM		Dec 15, 2022

## Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Foreign Relations Committee	Senate	Referred To	Feb 24, 2021

## Subjects & Policy Tags

### Policy Area:

International Affairs

## Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
117 HR 1201	Identical bill	<b>Apr 2, 2021:</b> Referred to the Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, and Global Human Rights.

## Summary (as of Feb 24, 2021)

### International Human Rights Defense Act of 2021

This bill establishes in the Department of State a permanent Special Envoy for the Human Rights of LGBTQI (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, or intersex) Peoples who shall serve as the principal State Department advisor regarding human rights for LGBTQI people and represent the United States in diplomatic matters relevant to the human rights of LGBTQI people.

The special envoy shall periodically provide Congress with a U.S. global strategy to prevent and respond to criminalization, discrimination, and violence against LGBTQI people. The State Department and the U.S. Agency for International Development may provide assistance to prevent and respond to such activities against LGBTQI people.

The bill also requires that annual country reports on human rights practices include information on criminalization, discrimination, and violence based on sexual orientation and gender identity.

## Actions Timeline

- **Feb 24, 2021:** Introduced in Senate
- **Feb 24, 2021:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.