

S 459

Save Democracy Act

Congress: 117 (2021–2023, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Government Operations and Politics

Introduced: Feb 25, 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 25, 2021)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/senate-bill/459>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Scott, Rick [R-FL]

Party: Republican • **State:** FL • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (4 total)

| Cosponsor | Party / State | Role | Date Joined |
|--------------------------------|---------------|------|--------------|
| Sen. Barrasso, John [R-WY] | R · WY | | Feb 25, 2021 |
| Sen. Hyde-Smith, Cindy [R-MS] | R · MS | | Feb 25, 2021 |
| Sen. Lummis, Cynthia M. [R-WY] | R · WY | | Feb 25, 2021 |
| Sen. Cramer, Kevin [R-ND] | R · ND | | Mar 1, 2021 |

Committee Activity

| Committee | Chamber | Activity | Date |
|------------------------------------|---------|-------------|--------------|
| Rules and Administration Committee | Senate | Referred To | Feb 25, 2021 |

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Government Operations and Politics

Related Bills

| Bill | Relationship | Last Action |
|------------|----------------|--|
| 117 S 1130 | Related bill | Apr 14, 2021: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration. |
| 117 HR 873 | Related bill | Feb 5, 2021: Referred to the House Committee on House Administration. |
| 117 HR 322 | Identical bill | Jan 15, 2021: Referred to the House Committee on House Administration. |

Save Democracy Act

This bill addresses issues involving voter registration, casting of ballots, and tabulation of ballots in federal elections.

Specifically, regarding voter registration for federal elections, the bill

- prohibits the use of automatic voter registration systems,
- requires individuals to provide documentary proof of U.S. citizenship to register to vote,
- requires individuals to provide their full Social Security number on their voter registration application, and
- requires courts to notify state election officials when an individual is recused from jury duty because the individual is not a U.S. citizen.

Next, regarding the casting of ballots in federal elections, the bill

- requires individuals to provide proof of identification for absentee and in-person voting,
- prohibits states from mailing unrequested absentee ballots,
- prohibits the use of a drop box for collecting voted absentee ballots unless it is located inside of a building that serves as an office for the election official,
- restricts the delivery of ballots by third parties (i.e., prohibits ballot harvesting),
- requires that absentee ballots be received before the polls close on election day, and
- requires states to use Social Security numbers to verify the identification of each individual who casts a ballot.

Finally, regarding the tabulation of ballots in federal elections, the bill

- requires states to permit poll watching by at least two campaign representatives per campaign,
- requires continuous counting of ballots after the closure of polling places on election day, and
- requires an audit of voting systems.

Actions Timeline

- **Feb 25, 2021:** Introduced in Senate
- **Feb 25, 2021:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration.