

HR 5053

Protecting Election Administration from Interference Act of 2021

Congress: 117 (2021–2023, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Government Operations and Politics

Introduced: Aug 20, 2021

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights, and Civil Liberties.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights, and Civil Liberties. (Nov 1, 2022)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/5053>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Allred, Colin Z. [D-TX-32]

Party: Democratic • **State:** TX • **Chamber:** House

Cosponsors (6 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Escobar, Veronica [D-TX-16]	D · TX		Aug 20, 2021
Rep. Sarbanes, John P. [D-MD-3]	D · MD		Aug 20, 2021
Rep. Slotkin, Elissa [D-MI-8]	D · MI		Aug 20, 2021
Rep. Veasey, Marc A. [D-TX-33]	D · TX		Aug 20, 2021
Rep. Lieu, Ted [D-CA-33]	D · CA		Dec 2, 2021
Rep. Swalwell, Eric [D-CA-15]	D · CA		Mar 28, 2022

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Committee on House Administration	House	Referred To	Aug 20, 2021
Judiciary Committee	House	Referred to	Nov 1, 2022

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Government Operations and Politics

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
117 HR 5746	Related bill	Jan 19, 2022: Motion to proceed to consideration of the motion to reconsider the vote by which cloture on the motion to concur in the House amendment to the Senate amendment to H.R. 5746 (Record Vote No. 9) withdrawn in Senate.
117 S 2747	Related bill	Oct 20, 2021: Motion by Senator Schumer to reconsider the vote by which cloture on the motion to proceed to S. 2747 was not invoked (Record Vote No. 420) entered in Senate.
117 S 2626	Identical bill	Aug 5, 2021: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

Protecting Election Administration from Interference Act of 2021

This bill revises preservation and retention requirements for federal election records. It also revises criminal penalties related to election records and the voting process.

Under current law, election officials must, for a period of 22 months from the federal election, retain and preserve all election-related records and papers. This bill extends the requirement to electronic records and electronic equipment.

Next, the bill directs the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency to issue minimum standards and best practices for retaining and preserving records (including electronic records), papers, and electronic equipment, including protocols for observing their preservation, security, and transfer by the Department of Justice (DOJ) and a representative of each political party.

In addition, the bill revises the federal criminal offense related to election records or papers to include reckless disregard of election record requirements resulting in the theft, destruction, concealment, mutilation, or alteration of a record, paper, or electronic equipment.

Further, the bill allows DOJ to demand electronic records and electronic equipment for inspection and generally prohibits DOJ from disclosing this information.

The bill allows DOJ and candidates for federal office to bring an action in a district court to compel compliance with election record requirements.

Finally, the bill extends criminal penalties related to voting interference to include intimidating, threatening, or coercing (or attempting to do so) an individual for processing or scanning ballots, tabulating, canvassing, or certifying voting results.

Actions Timeline

- **Nov 1, 2022:** Referred to the Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights, and Civil Liberties.
- **Aug 20, 2021:** Introduced in House
- **Aug 20, 2021:** Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on House Administration, 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.

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