

S 713

Safe Line Speeds During COVID-19 Act of 2021

Congress: 117 (2021–2023, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Agriculture and Food

Introduced: Mar 11, 2021

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry. (Mar 11, 2021)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/senate-bill/713>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Booker, Cory A. [D-NJ]

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

Cosponsors (12 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Baldwin, Tammy [D-WI]	D · WI		Mar 11, 2021
Sen. Blumenthal, Richard [D-CT]	D · CT		Mar 11, 2021
Sen. Brown, Sherrod [D-OH]	D · OH		Mar 11, 2021
Sen. Cardin, Benjamin L. [D-MD]	D · MD		Mar 11, 2021
Sen. Casey, Robert P., Jr. [D-PA]	D · PA		Mar 11, 2021
Sen. Feinstein, Dianne [D-CA]	D · CA		Mar 11, 2021
Sen. Gillibrand, Kirsten E. [D-NY]	D · NY		Mar 11, 2021
Sen. Merkley, Jeff [D-OR]	D · OR		Mar 11, 2021
Sen. Murray, Patty [D-WA]	D · WA		Mar 11, 2021
Sen. Sanders, Bernard [I-VT]	I · VT		Mar 11, 2021
Sen. Warren, Elizabeth [D-MA]	D · MA		Mar 11, 2021
Sen. Padilla, Alex [D-CA]	D · CA		Mar 25, 2021

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry Committee	Senate	Referred To	Mar 11, 2021

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Agriculture and Food

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
117 S 3285	Related bill	Nov 30, 2021: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Safe Line Speeds During COVID-19 Act of 2021

This bill directs the Food Safety and Inspection Service of the Department of Agriculture (USDA) to temporarily suspend any waivers and not issue new waivers related to line speeds in meat and poultry establishments and inspection staffing requirements for such establishments through 90 days after the date on which the COVID-19 (i.e., coronavirus disease 2019) emergency period is lifted. Additionally, the implementation of, and conversion to, the New Swine Slaughter Inspection System must be suspended.

No funds made available to USDA during such emergency period shall be used to develop, propose, finalize, issue, amend, or implement any policy, regulation, directive, constituent update, or any other agency program that would increase line speeds at meat and poultry establishments.

Not later than 90 days after the end of the emergency period, the Government Accountability Office shall conduct a review of actions taken by specific federal departments or agencies, including USDA, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic to determine the effectiveness of such actions in protecting animal, food, and worker safety.

Actions Timeline

- **Mar 11, 2021:** Introduced in Senate
- **Mar 11, 2021:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.