

## S 1206

Do No Harm Act

**Congress:** 118 (2023–2025, Ended)

**Chamber:** Senate

**Policy Area:** Civil Rights and Liberties, Minority Issues

**Introduced:** Apr 19, 2023

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

**Latest Action:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. (Apr 19, 2023)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/senate-bill/1206>

### Sponsor

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

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

Cosponsors (38 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Baldwin, Tammy [D-WI]	D · WI		Apr 19, 2023
Sen. Blumenthal, Richard [D-CT]	D · CT		Apr 19, 2023
Sen. Brown, Sherrod [D-OH]	D · OH		Apr 19, 2023
Sen. Cantwell, Maria [D-WA]	D · WA		Apr 19, 2023
Sen. Cardin, Benjamin L. [D-MD]	D · MD		Apr 19, 2023
Sen. Carper, Thomas R. [D-DE]	D · DE		Apr 19, 2023
Sen. Cortez Masto, Catherine [D-NV]	D · NV		Apr 19, 2023
Sen. Duckworth, Tammy [D-IL]	D · IL		Apr 19, 2023
Sen. Durbin, Richard J. [D-IL]	D · IL		Apr 19, 2023
Sen. Feinstein, Dianne [D-CA]	D · CA		Apr 19, 2023
Sen. Heinrich, Martin [D-NM]	D · NM		Apr 19, 2023
Sen. Hickenlooper, John W. [D-CO]	D · CO		Apr 19, 2023
Sen. Klobuchar, Amy [D-MN]	D · MN		Apr 19, 2023
Sen. Lujan, Ben Ray [D-NM]	D · NM		Apr 19, 2023
Sen. Markey, Edward J. [D-MA]	D · MA		Apr 19, 2023
Sen. Menendez, Robert [D-NJ]	D · NJ		Apr 19, 2023
Sen. Merkley, Jeff [D-OR]	D · OR		Apr 19, 2023
Sen. Padilla, Alex [D-CA]	D · CA		Apr 19, 2023
Sen. Reed, Jack [D-RI]	D · RI		Apr 19, 2023
Sen. Sanders, Bernard [I-VT]	I · VT		Apr 19, 2023
Sen. Shaheen, Jeanne [D-NH]	D · NH		Apr 19, 2023
Sen. Stabenow, Debbie [D-MI]	D · MI		Apr 19, 2023
Sen. Van Hollen, Chris [D-MD]	D · MD		Apr 19, 2023
Sen. Warren, Elizabeth [D-MA]	D · MA		Apr 19, 2023
Sen. Whitehouse, Sheldon [D-RI]	D · RI		Apr 19, 2023
Sen. Wyden, Ron [D-OR]	D · OR		Apr 19, 2023
Sen. Murray, Patty [D-WA]	D · WA		Apr 25, 2023
Sen. Welch, Peter [D-VT]	D · VT		Apr 25, 2023
Sen. Smith, Tina [D-MN]	D · MN		Apr 27, 2023
Sen. Butler, Laphonza R. [D-CA]	D · CA		Apr 18, 2024
Sen. Fetterman, John [D-PA]	D · PA		Jul 23, 2024
Sen. Coons, Christopher A. [D-DE]	D · DE		Jul 25, 2024
Sen. Rosen, Jacky [D-NV]	D · NV		Jul 30, 2024
Sen. Hassan, Margaret Wood [D-NH]	D · NH		Sep 10, 2024
Sen. Murphy, Christopher [D-CT]	D · CT		Sep 10, 2024
Sen. Peters, Gary C. [D-MI]	D · MI		Sep 11, 2024
Sen. Hirono, Mazie K. [D-HI]	D · HI		Sep 17, 2024
Sen. Casey, Robert P., Jr. [D-PA]	D · PA		Sep 24, 2024

### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Judiciary Committee	Senate	Referred To	Apr 19, 2023

### Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Civil Rights and Liberties, Minority Issues

### Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
118 HR 2725	Identical bill	<b>Apr 19, 2023:</b> Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary.

### Summary (as of Apr 19, 2023)

#### Do No Harm Act

This bill prohibits the application of the Religious Freedom Restoration Act of 1993 (RFRA) to specified federal laws or the implementation of such laws. Currently, RFRA prohibits the government from substantially burdening a person's exercise of religion even if the burden results from a rule of general applicability, except in furtherance of a compelling governmental interest when using the least restrictive means.

Under the bill, RFRA is inapplicable to laws or the implementation of laws that

- protect against discrimination or require the promotion of equal opportunity (e.g., the Civil Rights Act of 1964);
- require employers to provide wages, other compensation, or benefits, including leave;
- protect collective activity in the workplace;
- protect against child labor, abuse, or exploitation; or
- provide for access to, information about, referrals for, provision of, or coverage for any health care item or service.

The bill prevents RFRA from being used to deny (1) goods or services the government has agreed to provide to a beneficiary of or participant in a program or activity funded by a government contract, grant, agreement, or other award; or (2) a person's full and equal enjoyment of a government-provided good, service, benefit, facility, privilege, advantage, or accommodation.

In order for a person to assert a RFRA claim or defense in a judicial proceeding, the government must be a party to the proceeding.

### Actions Timeline

- **Apr 19, 2023:** Introduced in Senate
- **Apr 19, 2023:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.