

S 1251

First Step Implementation Act of 2023

Congress: 118 (2023–2025, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Crime and Law Enforcement

Introduced: Apr 20, 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 20, 2023)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/senate-bill/1251>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Durbin, Richard J. [D-IL]

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

Cosponsors (12 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Baldwin, Tammy [D-WI]	D · WI		Apr 20, 2023
Sen. Booker, Cory A. [D-NJ]	D · NJ		Apr 20, 2023
Sen. Brown, Sherrod [D-OH]	D · OH		Apr 20, 2023
Sen. Grassley, Chuck [R-IA]	R · IA		Apr 20, 2023
Sen. Klobuchar, Amy [D-MN]	D · MN		Apr 20, 2023
Sen. Lummis, Cynthia M. [R-WY]	R · WY		Apr 20, 2023
Sen. Ossoff, Jon [D-GA]	D · GA		Apr 20, 2023
Sen. Van Hollen, Chris [D-MD]	D · MD		Apr 20, 2023
Sen. Whitehouse, Sheldon [D-RI]	D · RI		Apr 20, 2023
Sen. Wicker, Roger F. [R-MS]	R · MS		Apr 20, 2023
Sen. Schatz, Brian [D-HI]	D · HI		Nov 2, 2023
Sen. Butler, Laphonza R. [D-CA]	D · CA		Jan 31, 2024

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Judiciary Committee	Senate	Referred To	Apr 20, 2023

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Crime and Law Enforcement

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

First Step Implementation Act of 2023

This bill makes various changes related to federal sentencing law and requires the Department of Justice (DOJ) to establish procedures to ensure the prompt release and accuracy of employment-related background check records.

The bill

- allows certain reduced mandatory minimum sentences for drug offenses to be applied retroactively to offenders who committed their offenses on or before December 21, 2018;
- permits a court, in certain circumstances, to grant safety valve relief (i.e., impose a sentence without regard to the statutory mandatory minimum penalty for certain drug offenses) for an otherwise eligible defendant who does not meet the requirement pertaining to criminal history;
- permits a court to reduce a sentence imposed on a defendant convicted as an adult for an offense committed as a juvenile if the defendant has served at least 20 years of the sentence;
- establishes a process to seal and expunge certain records of juvenile nonviolent offenses; and
- requires DOJ to establish and enforce procedures to ensure that records exchanged for employment-related background checks are promptly released and accurate.

Actions Timeline

- **Apr 20, 2023:** Introduced in Senate
- **Apr 20, 2023:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.