

## S 1677

Democracy Restoration Act of 2023

**Congress:** 118 (2023–2025, Ended)

**Chamber:** Senate

**Policy Area:** Government Operations and Politics

**Introduced:** May 18, 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. (May 18, 2023)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/senate-bill/1677>

### Sponsor

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**Name:** Sen. Cardin, Benjamin L. [D-MD]

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

Cosponsors (30 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Baldwin, Tammy [D-WI]	D · WI		May 18, 2023
Sen. Blumenthal, Richard [D-CT]	D · CT		May 18, 2023
Sen. Booker, Cory A. [D-NJ]	D · NJ		May 18, 2023
Sen. Brown, Sherrod [D-OH]	D · OH		May 18, 2023
Sen. Casey, Robert P., Jr. [D-PA]	D · PA		May 18, 2023
Sen. Durbin, Richard J. [D-IL]	D · IL		May 18, 2023
Sen. Feinstein, Dianne [D-CA]	D · CA		May 18, 2023
Sen. Hirono, Mazie K. [D-HI]	D · HI		May 18, 2023
Sen. Kaine, Tim [D-VA]	D · VA		May 18, 2023
Sen. Klobuchar, Amy [D-MN]	D · MN		May 18, 2023
Sen. Markey, Edward J. [D-MA]	D · MA		May 18, 2023
Sen. Menendez, Robert [D-NJ]	D · NJ		May 18, 2023
Sen. Murray, Patty [D-WA]	D · WA		May 18, 2023
Sen. Padilla, Alex [D-CA]	D · CA		May 18, 2023
Sen. Sanders, Bernard [I-VT]	I · VT		May 18, 2023
Sen. Schatz, Brian [D-HI]	D · HI		May 18, 2023
Sen. Shaheen, Jeanne [D-NH]	D · NH		May 18, 2023
Sen. Smith, Tina [D-MN]	D · MN		May 18, 2023
Sen. Van Hollen, Chris [D-MD]	D · MD		May 18, 2023
Sen. Warren, Elizabeth [D-MA]	D · MA		May 18, 2023
Sen. Welch, Peter [D-VT]	D · VT		May 18, 2023
Sen. Wyden, Ron [D-OR]	D · OR		May 18, 2023
Sen. Fetterman, John [D-PA]	D · PA		May 30, 2023
Sen. Merkley, Jeff [D-OR]	D · OR		May 30, 2023
Sen. Whitehouse, Sheldon [D-RI]	D · RI		May 30, 2023
Sen. Coons, Christopher A. [D-DE]	D · DE		Mar 5, 2024
Sen. Butler, Laphonza R. [D-CA]	D · CA		Mar 7, 2024
Sen. Reed, Jack [D-RI]	D · RI		Mar 22, 2024
Sen. Bennet, Michael F. [D-CO]	D · CO		Jul 23, 2024
Sen. Peters, Gary C. [D-MI]	D · MI		Aug 1, 2024

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Judiciary Committee	Senate	Referred To	May 18, 2023

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Government Operations and Politics

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
118 HR 11	Related bill	<b>Dec 17, 2024:</b> Referred to the Subcommittee on Social Security.
118 HR 4987	Identical bill	<b>Jul 27, 2023:</b> Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary.
118 S 1	Related bill	<b>Jul 25, 2023:</b> Read twice and referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration.
118 S 2344	Related bill	<b>Jul 18, 2023:</b> Read twice and referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

Summary (as of May 18, 2023)

Democracy Restoration Act of 2023

This bill addresses the voting rights of individuals convicted of a criminal offense and the restoration of their voting rights.

First, the bill declares that the right of a U.S. citizen to vote in any election for federal office shall not be denied or abridged because that individual has been convicted of a criminal offense unless, at the time of the election, such individual is serving a felony sentence. Further, the bill provides for enforcement of, and remedies for violations of, the bill.

In addition, it sets forth requirements for state and federal notification of individuals of the restoration of their voting rights.

Finally, the bill prohibits federal funding of construction or improvement of a place of incarceration unless U.S. citizens incarcerated in that jurisdiction are notified, upon release, of their voting rights.

Actions Timeline

- **May 18, 2023:** Introduced in Senate
- **May 18, 2023:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.