

S 179

COMPOST Act

Congress: 118 (2023–2025, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Agriculture and Food

Introduced: Jan 31, 2023

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. (Jan 31, 2023)

Official Text: https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/senate-bill/179

Sponsor

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

Party: Democratic • State: NJ • Chamber: Senate

Cosponsors (3 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Smith, Tina [D-MN]	D · MN		Jan 31, 2023
Sen. Coons, Christopher A. [D-DE]	D · DE		Feb 15, 2023
Sen. Welch, Peter [D-VT]	D · VT		May 31, 2023

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry Committee	Senate	Referred To	Jan 31, 2023

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Agriculture and Food

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
118 HR 651	Related bill	Feb 23, 2023: Referred to the Subcommittee on Conservation, Research, and Biotechnology.

## **Cultivating Organic Matter through the Promotion Of Sustainable Techniques Act or the COMPOST Act**

This bill makes composting a conservation practice and activity for purposes of Department of Agriculture (USDA) conservation programs. The bill also requires USDA to establish a competitive program to award grants and loan guarantees for projects that expand access to food waste composting.

In awarding grants and loans guarantees, USDA must prioritize projects that include the greatest number of the following factors:

- are located in or serving a location with significant access to food waste and no or limited prior access to food waste composting;
- demonstrate the potential to create new capacity for the volume or weight of food waste collected and processed, or make significant gains in the number of people with access to food waste composting facilities or systems;
- demonstrate a plan for following best management practices and producing a high-quality compost product;
- incorporate the participation of small and diverse businesses (e.g., minority-, woman-, and veteran-owned businesses certified by the Small Business Administration);
- create opportunities for hiring and leadership development practices that are inclusive and provide living wages;
- serve disadvantaged and low-income communities, engage Black farmers, Indigenous farmers, and other farmers of color, or incorporate an environmental justice plan or principle; and
- are for a facility or system that accepts or plans to accept and process only source separated organics.

## **Actions Timeline**

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- **Jan 31, 2023:** Introduced in Senate
- **Jan 31, 2023:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.