

## S 2550

### Denying Expenditures for False Accusations with Malicious Effect (DEFAME) Act

**Congress:** 118 (2023–2025, Ended)

**Chamber:** Senate

**Policy Area:** Taxation

**Introduced:** Jul 26, 2023

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

**Latest Action:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance. (Jul 26, 2023)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/senate-bill/2550>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Sen. Whitehouse, Sheldon [D-RI]

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

### Cosponsors

*No cosponsors are listed for this bill.*

### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Finance Committee	Senate	Referred To	Jul 26, 2023

### Subjects & Policy Tags

#### Policy Area:

Taxation

### Related Bills

*No related bills are listed.*

### Summary (as of Jul 26, 2023)

#### Denying Expenditures for False Accusations with Malicious Effect (DEFAME) Act

This bill denies certain large corporations (i.e., corporations with gross income exceeding \$10 billion in the preceding taxable year) a tax deduction for certain payments relating to defamation law suits, including the applicable defamation suit payment, attorneys' fees, and insurance premiums. The bill defines *applicable defamation suit payment* as any payment that (1) is made in connection with a defamation suit for which proof of actual malice is required to succeed on the merits, (2) is paid pursuant to a settlement or court order, and (3) exceeds \$500 million in the aggregate.

### Actions Timeline

- **Jul 26, 2023:** Introduced in Senate
- **Jul 26, 2023:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.