

S 325

Supreme Court Ethics Act

Congress: 118 (2023–2025, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Law

Introduced: Feb 9, 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. (Feb 9, 2023)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/senate-bill/325>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Murphy, Christopher [D-CT]

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

Cosponsors (30 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Baldwin, Tammy [D-WI]	D · WI		Feb 9, 2023
Sen. Blumenthal, Richard [D-CT]	D · CT		Feb 9, 2023
Sen. Booker, Cory A. [D-NJ]	D · NJ		Feb 9, 2023
Sen. Brown, Sherrod [D-OH]	D · OH		Feb 9, 2023
Sen. Cardin, Benjamin L. [D-MD]	D · MD		Feb 9, 2023
Sen. Carper, Thomas R. [D-DE]	D · DE		Feb 9, 2023
Sen. Casey, Robert P., Jr. [D-PA]	D · PA		Feb 9, 2023
Sen. Cortez Masto, Catherine [D-NV]	D · NV		Feb 9, 2023
Sen. Duckworth, Tammy [D-IL]	D · IL		Feb 9, 2023
Sen. Durbin, Richard J. [D-IL]	D · IL		Feb 9, 2023
Sen. Feinstein, Dianne [D-CA]	D · CA		Feb 9, 2023
Sen. Fetterman, John [D-PA]	D · PA		Feb 9, 2023
Sen. Hickenlooper, John W. [D-CO]	D · CO		Feb 9, 2023
Sen. Hirono, Mazie K. [D-HI]	D · HI		Feb 9, 2023
Sen. Klobuchar, Amy [D-MN]	D · MN		Feb 9, 2023
Sen. Lujan, Ben Ray [D-NM]	D · NM		Feb 9, 2023
Sen. Markey, Edward J. [D-MA]	D · MA		Feb 9, 2023
Sen. Merkley, Jeff [D-OR]	D · OR		Feb 9, 2023
Sen. Murray, Patty [D-WA]	D · WA		Feb 9, 2023
Sen. Peters, Gary C. [D-MI]	D · MI		Feb 9, 2023
Sen. Sanders, Bernard [I-VT]	I · VT		Feb 9, 2023
Sen. Shaheen, Jeanne [D-NH]	D · NH		Feb 9, 2023
Sen. Smith, Tina [D-MN]	D · MN		Feb 9, 2023
Sen. Stabenow, Debbie [D-MI]	D · MI		Feb 9, 2023
Sen. Van Hollen, Chris [D-MD]	D · MD		Feb 9, 2023
Sen. Wyden, Ron [D-OR]	D · OR		Feb 9, 2023
Sen. Heinrich, Martin [D-NM]	D · NM		Feb 13, 2023
Sen. Welch, Peter [D-VT]	D · VT		Feb 13, 2023
Sen. Bennet, Michael F. [D-CO]	D · CO		Feb 15, 2023
Sen. Schatz, Brian [D-HI]	D · HI		Mar 1, 2023

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Judiciary Committee	Senate	Referred To	Feb 9, 2023

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Law

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
118 HR 927	Identical bill	Feb 9, 2023: Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary.

Supreme Court Ethics Act

This bill establishes a new statutory requirement for the Judicial Conference of the United States to issue a judicial code of conduct for judges and justices of U.S. courts, including Justices of the Supreme Court. Currently, the Judicial Conference issues a code of conduct for judges of U.S. courts (but not for Justices of the Supreme Court).

To enforce the code of conduct for Justices of the Supreme Court, the bill requires the Supreme Court to appoint an ethics investigations counsel. The ethics investigations counsel must

- adopt rules to enforce the code of conduct, including a process to receive public complaints of potential violations;
- investigate complaints; and
- issue an annual public report describing the complaints and the steps taken to address the complaints.

Finally, the bill requires a Justice of the Supreme Court to publicly disclose the reasons for disqualifying himself or herself in a proceeding or the reasons for denying a motion to disqualify himself or herself in a proceeding.

Actions Timeline

- **Feb 9, 2023:** Introduced in Senate
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