

S 346

Meat and Poultry Special Investigator Act of 2023

Congress: 118 (2023–2025, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Agriculture and Food

Introduced: Feb 9, 2023

Current Status: Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs. Hearings held.

Latest Action: Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs. Hearings held. (May 2, 2024)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/senate-bill/346>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Tester, Jon [D-MT]

Party: Democratic • State: MT • Chamber: Senate

Cosponsors (10 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Blumenthal, Richard [D-CT]	D · CT		Feb 9, 2023
Sen. Booker, Cory A. [D-NJ]	D · NJ		Feb 9, 2023
Sen. Daines, Steve [R-MT]	R · MT		Feb 9, 2023
Sen. Grassley, Chuck [R-IA]	R · IA		Feb 9, 2023
Sen. Heinrich, Martin [D-NM]	D · NM		Feb 9, 2023
Sen. Hoeven, John [R-ND]	R · ND		Feb 9, 2023
Sen. Klobuchar, Amy [D-MN]	D · MN		Feb 9, 2023
Sen. Rounds, Mike [R-SD]	R · SD		Feb 9, 2023
Sen. Stabenow, Debbie [D-MI]	D · MI		Feb 9, 2023
Sen. Wyden, Ron [D-OR]	D · OR		Feb 9, 2023

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry Committee	Senate	Referred To	Feb 9, 2023
Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs Committee	Senate	Hearings By (full committee)	May 2, 2024

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Agriculture and Food

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Meat and Poultry Special Investigator Act of 2023

This bill establishes within the Department of Agriculture (USDA) the Office of the Special Investigator for Competition Matters.

Specifically, the office must use all available tools (e.g., subpoenas) to investigate and prosecute violations of the Packers and Stockyards Act of 1921 by packers and live poultry dealers. Further, the bill grants the office the authority to bring any civil or administrative action authorized by that act against a packer or live poultry dealer.

Additionally, the office must

- serve as a liaison to the Department of Justice and the Federal Trade Commission with respect to competition and trade practices in the food and agricultural sector,
- consult with the Department of Homeland Security on national security and critical infrastructure security in the food and agricultural sector,
- maintain a staff of attorneys and other professionals with appropriate expertise, and
- coordinate with the USDA Office of the General Counsel and the Packers and Stockyards Division of the Agricultural Marketing Service.

Actions Timeline

- **May 2, 2024:** Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs. Hearings held.
- **Feb 9, 2023:** Introduced in Senate
- **Feb 9, 2023:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.