

S 359

Supreme Court Ethics, Recusal, and Transparency Act of 2023

Congress: 118 (2023–2025, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Law

Introduced: Feb 9, 2023

Current Status: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 199.

Latest Action: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 199. (Sep 5, 2023)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/senate-bill/359>

Sponsor

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

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

Cosponsors (43 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. Durbin, Richard J. [D-IL]	D · IL		Feb 9, 2023
Sen. Feinstein, Dianne [D-CA]	D · CA		Feb 9, 2023
Sen. Gillibrand, Kirsten E. [D-NY]	D · NY		Feb 9, 2023
Sen. Hirono, Mazie K. [D-HI]	D · HI		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. Reed, Jack [D-RI]	D · RI		Feb 9, 2023
Sen. Sanders, Bernard [I-VT]	I · VT		Feb 9, 2023
Sen. Warner, Mark R. [D-VA]	D · VA		Feb 9, 2023
Sen. Van Hollen, Chris [D-MD]	D · MD		Feb 13, 2023
Sen. Welch, Peter [D-VT]	D · VT		Feb 13, 2023
Sen. Baldwin, Tammy [D-WI]	D · WI		Apr 17, 2023
Sen. Klobuchar, Amy [D-MN]	D · MN		Apr 17, 2023
Sen. Padilla, Alex [D-CA]	D · CA		Apr 17, 2023
Sen. Schatz, Brian [D-HI]	D · HI		Apr 17, 2023
Sen. Wyden, Ron [D-OR]	D · OR		Apr 17, 2023
Sen. Cardin, Benjamin L. [D-MD]	D · MD		Apr 18, 2023
Sen. Hassan, Margaret Wood [D-NH]	D · NH		Apr 25, 2023
Sen. Warnock, Raphael G. [D-GA]	D · GA		Apr 27, 2023
Sen. Coons, Christopher A. [D-DE]	D · DE		Jul 10, 2023
Sen. Fetterman, John [D-PA]	D · PA		Jul 12, 2023
Sen. Ossoff, Jon [D-GA]	D · GA		Jul 13, 2023
Sen. Schumer, Charles E. [D-NY]	D · NY		Jul 18, 2023
Sen. Carper, Thomas R. [D-DE]	D · DE		Jul 19, 2023
Sen. Hickenlooper, John W. [D-CO]	D · CO		Jul 25, 2023
Sen. Brown, Sherrod [D-OH]	D · OH		Sep 6, 2023
Sen. Casey, Robert P., Jr. [D-PA]	D · PA		Sep 6, 2023
Sen. Kaine, Tim [D-VA]	D · VA		Sep 6, 2023
Sen. Murray, Patty [D-WA]	D · WA		Sep 6, 2023
Sen. Shaheen, Jeanne [D-NH]	D · NH		Sep 6, 2023
Sen. Stabenow, Debbie [D-MI]	D · MI		Sep 6, 2023
Sen. Smith, Tina [D-MN]	D · MN		Sep 19, 2023
Sen. Menendez, Robert [D-NJ]	D · NJ		Oct 30, 2023
Sen. Lujan, Ben Ray [D-NM]	D · NM		Nov 1, 2023
Sen. Cortez Masto, Catherine [D-NV]	D · NV		Nov 2, 2023
Sen. Butler, Laphonza R. [D-CA]	D · CA		Nov 8, 2023
Sen. Heinrich, Martin [D-NM]	D · NM		Nov 9, 2023
Sen. Peters, Gary C. [D-MI]	D · MI		Dec 12, 2023
Sen. Rosen, Jacky [D-NV]	D · NV		Jan 9, 2024

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Kelly, Mark [D-AZ]	D · AZ		Jan 17, 2024
Sen. Cantwell, Maria [D-WA]	D · WA		Feb 26, 2024

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Judiciary Committee	Senate	Hearings By (subcommittee)	Jun 14, 2023

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Law

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
118 HR 926	Identical bill	Feb 9, 2023: Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary.

Summary (as of Feb 9, 2023)

Supreme Court Ethics, Recusal, and Transparency Act of 2023

This bill makes various changes related to the ethical standards, financial disclosure requirements, and recusal requirements that apply to Supreme Court Justices.

Among the changes, the bill requires the Supreme Court to

- adopt a code of conduct for Justices and establish procedures to receive and investigate complaints of judicial misconduct;
- adopt rules governing the disclosure of gifts, travel, and income received by the Justices and law clerks that are at least as rigorous as the House and Senate disclosure rules; and
- establish procedural rules requiring each party or amicus to disclose any gift, income, or reimbursement provided to Justices.

Additionally, the bill

- expands the circumstances under which a Justice or judge must be disqualified; and
- requires the Supreme Court and the Judicial Conference to establish procedural rules for prohibiting the filing of or striking an amicus brief that would result in the disqualification of a Justice, judge, or magistrate judge.

Actions Timeline

- **Sep 5, 2023:** Committee on the Judiciary. Reported by Senator Durbin with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. Without written report.
- **Sep 5, 2023:** Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 199.
- **Jul 20, 2023:** Committee on the Judiciary. Ordered to be reported with an amendment favorably.
- **Jun 14, 2023:** Committee on the Judiciary Subcommittee on Federal Courts, Oversight, Agency Action, and Federal Rights. Hearings held. With printed Hearing: S.Hrg. 118-42.
- **Feb 9, 2023:** Introduced in Senate
- **Feb 9, 2023:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.