

S 517

Combating Workplace Discrimination in Correctional Facilities Act of 2023

Congress: 118 (2023–2025, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Crime and Law Enforcement

Introduced: Feb 16, 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 16, 2023)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/senate-bill/517>

Sponsor

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

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

Cosponsors

No cosponsors are listed for this bill.

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Judiciary Committee	Senate	Referred To	Feb 16, 2023

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Crime and Law Enforcement

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
118 HR 3567	Identical bill	May 22, 2023: Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

Combating Workplace Discrimination in Correctional Facilities Act of 2023

This bill provides certain rights and protections for prisoners who refuse to or do not work while in prison.

Specifically, the bill prohibits the Department of Justice from requiring a prisoner to participate in a work program.

Additionally, the bill allows a prisoner to file a civil rights lawsuit under federal law without first exhausting all administrative remedies. Currently, a prisoner must exhaust all administrative remedies before filing such a lawsuit.

The bill prohibits any retaliation against a prisoner for refusal to work. It also prohibits the Bureau of Prisons from disciplining a prisoner for refusal to work.

Finally, the bill extends other federal statutory protections to prisoners by (1) including correctional facilities as covered employers and prisoners as covered employees under the Civil Rights Act of 1964 with respect to employment-related discrimination against imprisoned workers, and (2) requiring correctional facilities to implement certain policies and procedures to ensure compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

Actions Timeline

- **Feb 16, 2023:** Introduced in Senate
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