

S 831

Transnational Repression Policy Act

Congress: 118 (2023–2025, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: International Affairs

Introduced: Mar 16, 2023

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations. (Mar 16, 2023)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/senate-bill/831>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Merkley, Jeff [D-OR]

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

Cosponsors (7 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Cardin, Benjamin L. [D-MD]	D · MD		Mar 16, 2023
Sen. Hagerty, Bill [R-TN]	R · TN		Mar 16, 2023
Sen. Rubio, Marco [R-FL]	R · FL		Mar 16, 2023
Sen. Cramer, Kevin [R-ND]	R · ND		May 16, 2023
Sen. Blumenthal, Richard [D-CT]	D · CT		May 18, 2023
Sen. Tillis, Thomas [R-NC]	R · NC		May 31, 2023
Sen. Kaine, Tim [D-VA]	D · VA		May 20, 2024

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Foreign Relations Committee	Senate	Referred To	Mar 16, 2023

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

International Affairs

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
118 HR 3654	Identical bill	May 24, 2023: Referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committees on the Judiciary, and Intelligence (Permanent Select), 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.

Transnational Repression Policy Act

This bill seeks to reduce transnational repression (the actions of foreign governments to intimidate, silence, or harm members of diaspora and exile communities to prevent them from exercising their human rights).

This bill requires the President to impose property- and visa-blocking sanctions on certain foreign persons (individuals and entities) that directly engage in transnational repression.

This bill also requires the Department of State to develop a strategy to promote initiatives that (1) enhance international awareness of transnational repression; (2) address transnational repression, including by raising the costs of perpetrating repressive activities and by protecting targeted individuals and groups; and (3) conduct outreach to those targeted by foreign governments.

Additionally, the State Department and the Department of Justice must provide training to certain individuals (e.g., relevant federal employees and law enforcement partners) on specified aspects of transnational repression.

The bill also directs the intelligence community to prioritize, to the extent feasible, the identification of those perpetrating transnational repression against communities in the United States.

Actions Timeline

- **Mar 16, 2023:** Introduced in Senate
- **Mar 16, 2023:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.