

S 859

Every Supreme Court Nominee Deserves Timely Consideration Act

Congress: 118 (2023–2025, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Congress

Introduced: Mar 16, 2023

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

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

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/senate-bill/859>

Sponsor

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

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

Cosponsors (1 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Padilla, Alex [D-CA]	D · CA		Jan 31, 2024

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Rules and Administration Committee	Senate	Referred To	Mar 16, 2023

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Congress

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Every Supreme Court Nominee Deserves Timely Consideration Act

This bill establishes procedures under Senate rules through which any Senator may expedite the vote on a nominee for the Supreme Court.

Currently, most nominations, including for Supreme Court Justices, must be referred for consideration to the Senate committee with relevant jurisdiction before the nominations receive a vote in the Senate. A committee considering a nomination may (1) report out the nomination favorably, unfavorably, or without recommendation; or (2) choose to take no action. Nominations that are pending when the Senate adjourns at the end of a session or recesses for more than 30 days are typically returned to the President.

Under this bill, if the Judiciary Committee fails to report out a nomination for a Supreme Court Justice within 60 continuous days of session, any Senator may publish a notice of intent to discharge the nomination from the committee in the *Congressional Record*. Next, if 30 Senators support discharging the nomination within the 20 days following the publication of the notice, the nomination must be placed on the Senate calendar for debate and vote.

The bill limits the duration of the debate and permits Senators to object to the consideration of debatable motions and appeals related to the nomination. The vote on the nomination must be held immediately following the debate.

Actions Timeline

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