

113TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 9

To strengthen our Nation’s electoral system by ensuring clean and fair elections.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 22 (legislative day, JANUARY 3), 2013

Mr. REID (for himself, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. DURBIN, Mrs. MURRAY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. BROWN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. COONS, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. SANDERS, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, and Mr. HEINRICH) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration

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## A BILL

To strengthen our Nation’s electoral system by ensuring clean and fair elections.

1        *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4        This Act may be cited as the “Clean and Fair Elec-  
5 tions Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. SENSE OF THE SENATE.**

7        It is the sense of the Senate that Congress should—

8            (1) recognize that—

1 (A) our elections belong to the voters of  
2 the United States; and

3 (B) our systems of election administration  
4 and campaign finance should be structured in a  
5 way that prioritizes the interests of the Amer-  
6 ican public first;

7 (2) pass legislation to bring greater trans-  
8 parency to our elections and end anonymous political  
9 spending by shadow groups and special interests;

10 (3) require greater disclosure of campaign con-  
11 tributions in a searchable, public online database;

12 (4) take steps to safeguard the right to vote for  
13 every eligible voter, including prohibiting deceptive  
14 and misleading efforts to prevent voters from exer-  
15 cising the franchise;

16 (5) improve access to the polls for every eligible  
17 voter by streamlining voting procedures;

18 (6) pass election reform legislation that includes  
19 expanded absentee voting, mandatory early voting  
20 periods, and voter registration reforms;

21 (7) support local election officials to ensure they  
22 have working voting systems that are accessible, se-  
23 cure, and easy to use;

24 (8) require States to develop plans to reduce  
25 lines at polling places and develop contingency plans

1 that provide additional flexibility in the event of a  
2 natural disaster or other emergency situation; and

3 (9) ensure that the guarantees of the 14th and  
4 15th amendments to the Constitution and the Vot-  
5 ing Rights Act of 1965 are enforced so that all  
6 Americans are able to vote and have their votes  
7 count without discrimination.

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