

From: "Rep. Trey Hollingsworth" <trey@mail.house.gov> To: Carter.Moelk@mail.house.gov Subject: Poll: Filibuster Date: Wed, 01 Sep 2021 17:15:13 -0400 Dear Hoosiers, This year, Democrats have reignited the debate to eliminate the filibuster in the Senate. The filibuster is a tool, often employed by the minority party, where a senator announces they object to a bill and stops the voting process in order to delay or block a vote entirely on the Senate floor until a 60-vote majority is attained to override the motion. Traditionally, a filibuster is used to prevent the majority from passing legislative items without bipartisan support. Proponents of keeping the filibuster believe that the procedural tool promotes bipartisanship and compromise between parties. Our Founding Fathers designed the Senate to be a deliberative body where issues die without consensus, so the country is not subject to extreme policy volatility. Because the filibuster exists, one party is less likely to be able to push through partisan agenda items without consideration or input from the other. The filibuster acts as the Senate's internal checks and balances system to constrain majority power and increase public confidence in the chamber's decision-making abilities. Without the filibuster, laws could be made or undone without bipartisan support, potentially leading to violent swings back and forth on massive policies like healthcare, taxation, or even the number of Supreme Court judges, every few years. While both parties have benefited from the filibuster over the years as power has shifted back and forth between them, opponents of keeping the filibuster argue it gives too much power to the minority party. They note that a certain party is voted into the majority for a reason, and to let a few senators prevent the will of many senators is not proper representation in the Senate. Additionally, opponents believe the procedural tool promotes obstructionism, which leads to the Administration circumventing Congress through Executive Orders to get key policies enacted. QUESTION OF THE WEEK: Do you think the Senate should abolish the filibuster? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ I don't know ☐ Other Dear Hoosiers, This year, Democrats have reignited the debate to eliminate the filibuster in the Senate. The filibuster is a tool, often employed by the minority party, where a senator announces they object to a bill and stops the voting process in order to delay or block a vote entirely on the Senate floor until a 60-vote majority is attained to override the motion. Traditionally, a filibuster is used to prevent the majority from passing legislative items without bipartisan support. Proponents of keeping the filibuster believe that the procedural tool promotes bipartisanship and compromise between parties. Our Founding Fathers designed the Senate to be a deliberative body where issues die without consensus, so the country is not subject to extreme policy volatility. Because the filibuster exists, one party is less likely to be able to push through partisan agenda items without consideration or input from the other. The filibuster acts as the Senate's internal checks and balances system to constrain majority power and increase public confidence in the chamber's decision-making abilities. Without the filibuster, laws could be made or undone without bipartisan support, potentially leading to violent swings back and forth on massive policies like healthcare, taxation, or even the number of Supreme Court judges, every few years. While both parties have benefited from the filibuster over the years as power has shifted back and forth between them, opponents of keeping the filibuster argue it gives too much power to the minority party. They note that a certain party is voted into the majority for a reason, and to let a few

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