

RECENT BILLS RESTORE IMPORTANT FREEDOMS FOR CONSUMERS AND WORKERS

Pre-dispute forced arbitration clauses in consumer and worker contracts restrict peoples' freedom to choose where disputes are heard when they are harmed. Ordinary people give up their Seventh Amendment right to access the courts and are forced into closed-door private arbitration, where it is easier for corporations to avoid accountability and keep wrongdoing out of public view. Several bills have been introduced during this congressional session that would ensure consumers and workers can choose where to bring their claims when companies violate the law.

The Forced Arbitration Injustice Repeal (FAIR) Act, H.R. 5350/S. 2799 - The FAIR Act would ensure corporations cannot use the fine print of their one-sided contracts to restrict ordinary people's constitutional right to choose to bring their claims to court.

- Prohibits enforcement of pre-dispute forced arbitration clauses in all consumer, civil rights, employment, and antitrust cases.
- Restores all parties' ability to choose where to resolve disputes after they arise.

The Sunshine on Solar Lending Act, H.R. 4489 - Recognizing rampant deception and fraud in solar panel sales, this bill would promote transparency and open the courthouse doors for cheated consumers.

- Prohibits pre-dispute forced arbitration clauses in financing contracts for solar panels.
- Allows consumers who have been ripped off by deceptive and fraudulent residential solar panel sales tactics to vindicate their rights in the forum of their choosing.

The Protecting Older Americans Act, H.R. 5115/S. 2703 - This bipartisan bill ensures that corporations cannot keep serious claims of age discrimination out of the public eye.

- Voids forced arbitration clauses in employment contracts that prevent workers from bringing age discrimination claims to court.
- Ensures older Americans have the same protections from forced arbitration as victims of workplace sexual assault and harassment who had their rights restored by the Ending Forced Arbitration of Sexual Assault and Sexual Harassment Act of 2021.