

S 1815

Strengthening American Citizenship Act of 2005

Congress: 109 (2005–2007, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Immigration

Introduced: Oct 4, 2005

Current Status: Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR S13467-13468)

Latest Action: Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR S13467-13468) (Dec 13, 2005)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/109th-congress/senate-bill/1815>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Alexander, Lamar [R-TN]

Party: Republican • State: TN • Chamber: Senate

Cosponsors (6 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Cornyn, John [R-TX]	R · TX		Oct 4, 2005
Sen. Isakson, Johnny [R-GA]	R · GA		Oct 18, 2005
Sen. Cochran, Thad [R-MS]	R · MS		Nov 2, 2005
Sen. Santorum, Rick [R-PA]	R · PA		Mar 29, 2006
Sen. Frist, William H. [R-TN]	R · TN		Mar 30, 2006
Sen. McConnell, Mitch [R-KY]	R · KY		Mar 30, 2006

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Judiciary Committee	Senate	Referred To	Oct 4, 2005

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Immigration

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
109 HR 4168	Identical bill	<b>Feb 6, 2006:</b> Referred to the Subcommittee on Immigration, Border Security, and Claims.

Strengthening American Citizenship Act of 2005 - Directs the Chief of the Office of Citizenship of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to provide grants (not to exceed \$500) to assist legal U.S. residents who declare an intent to apply for citizenship in the United States to meet naturalization requirements.

Provides such grants to an accredited institution of higher education or other qualified educational institution for tuition, fees, books, and other educational resources required by the English language course in which the legal resident is enrolled.

Amends the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA) to provide that a legal U.S. resident who demonstrates English fluency will satisfy the residency requirement upon the completion of four (currently, five years) years of continuous U.S. legal residency.

Directs the Secretary of DHS to: (1) establish an American citizenship grant program for qualified entities to provide civics, history, and English classes to promote the patriotic integration of prospective citizens; (2) establish the United States Citizenship Foundation to support the functions of the Office of Citizenship; and (3) implement a strategy to enhance public awareness of naturalization ceremonies.

Amends INA to set forth a new oath of allegiance. Directs the Secretary to: (1) incorporate a knowledge and understanding of the oath of allegiance into the history and government citizenship test; and (2) notify the embassy of the country of which a new citizen was a citizen or subject that such citizen has renounced allegiance to that foreign country, and sworn allegiance to the United States.

Establishes a new citizens award program to recognize citizens who: (1) have made an outstanding contribution to the United States; and (2) were naturalized during the ten-year period ending on the date of such recognition.

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### **Actions Timeline**

- **Dec 13, 2005:** Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR S13467-13468)
- **Oct 4, 2005:** Introduced in Senate
- **Oct 4, 2005:** Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR S10974-10975)
- **Oct 4, 2005:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.