

HR 688

SAFER Act

Congress: 109 (2005–2007, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Immigration

Introduced: Feb 9, 2005

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Immigration, Border Security, and Claims.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Immigration, Border Security, and Claims. (Apr 4, 2005)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/109th-congress/house-bill/688>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Barrett, J. Gresham [R-SC-3]

Party: Republican • State: SC • Chamber: House

Cosponsors (9 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Goode, Virgil H., Jr. [R-VA-5]	R · VA		Feb 10, 2005
Rep. Platts, Todd Russell [R-PA-19]	R · PA		Mar 8, 2005
Rep. Tancredo, Thomas G. [R-CO-6]	R · CO		Apr 5, 2005
Rep. Alexander, Rodney [R-LA-5]	R · LA		May 5, 2005
Rep. Bradley, Jeb [R-NH-1]	R · NH		May 19, 2005
Rep. Brown-Waite, Ginny [R-FL-5]	R · FL		Jun 17, 2005
Rep. Myrick, Sue Wilkins [R-NC-9]	R · NC		Jul 14, 2005
Rep. Boozman, John [R-AR-3]	R · AR		Oct 26, 2005
Rep. Gingrey, Phil [R-GA-11]	R · GA		Nov 9, 2005

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Homeland Security Committee	House	Referred to	Mar 9, 2005
Judiciary Committee	House	Referred to	Apr 4, 2005

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Immigration

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Securing America's Future through Enforcement Reform Act of 2005 (SAFER Act) - Increases the number of personnel assigned to combat alien smuggling. Requires enhanced penalties for certain smuggling-related offenses.

Authorizes the use of military personnel for border enforcement.

Increases the number of full-time inspectors within the Department of Homeland Security (DHS).

Amends the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA) to require Visa Waiver Program (VWP) participants to have machine-readable passports by October 1, 2005.

Requires consular officers to conduct in-person interviews of visa applicants.

Recodifies and amends grounds of inadmissibility and removability.

Applies attestation requirements concerning nondisplacement of U.S. workers to all employers of H-1B (specialty occupation) nonimmigrants.

Requires implementation of an integrated entry-exit system at all land border ports of entry by October 26, 2005.

Directs institutions of higher education to provide information on courses taken by foreign students.

Requires lawful permanent residents to register with the Secretary annually and other aliens to register every three months.

Authorizes visa term compliance bonds for nonimmigrants.

Addresses the removal of alien terrorists, criminals, and serious human rights violators.

Requires aliens to use secure travel and identification documents.

Makes the employment eligibility verification system applicable to all employers.

Requires the expedited removal of undocumented aliens who have not been continuously physically present in the United States for five years (except criminal aliens and asylum seekers).

Establishes criminal and civil penalties for aliens who are knowingly unlawfully present.

Makes government agencies that prohibit employees from sharing immigration status information with DHS ineligible for Federal law enforcement grants.

Authorizes the Secretary to grant asylum to alien refugees. Places the burden of proof on asylum applicants. Requires corroborating evidence where reasonable.

Eliminates review of determinations regarding the withholding of removal under the United Nations Convention Against Torture. Limits review of asylum decisions and orders of removal against criminal aliens.

Temporarily suspends the VWP, adjustment of status applications, and renewals of temporary protected status. Discontinues nonimmigrant visas for aliens from countries that deny or delay repatriation.

Prohibits the issuance of most visas to aliens from countries determined to be state sponsors of terrorism.

Limits visa preference allocations for family-sponsored immigrants. Removes unskilled workers from the allocation for employment-based immigrants. Eliminates diversity visas.

Requires congressional approval of refugee quotas that exceed the combined total of refugees accepted by other countries.

Increases sponsorship levels for immigration applications.

Repeals certain adjustment of status provisions of INA.

Requires congressional approval for temporary protected status for undocumented aliens.

Actions Timeline

- **Apr 4, 2005:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Immigration, Border Security, and Claims.
- **Mar 9, 2005:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Economic Security, Infrastructure Protection, and Cybersecurity.
- **Feb 9, 2005:** Introduced in House
- **Feb 9, 2005:** Introduced in House
- **Feb 9, 2005:** Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Homeland Security, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.
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