

S 2135

Child Soldiers Accountability Act of 2008

Congress: 110 (2007–2009, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Crime and Law Enforcement

Introduced: Oct 3, 2007

Current Status: Became Public Law No: 110-340.

Latest Action: Became Public Law No: 110-340. (Oct 3, 2008)

Law: 110-340 (Enacted Oct 3, 2008)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/110th-congress/senate-bill/2135>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Durbin, Richard J. [D-IL]

Party: Democratic • **State:** IL • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (9 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Brownback, Sam [R-KS]	R · KS		Oct 3, 2007
Sen. Coburn, Tom [R-OK]	R · OK		Oct 3, 2007
Sen. Feingold, Russell D. [D-WI]	D · WI		Oct 3, 2007
Sen. Dodd, Christopher J. [D-CT]	D · CT		Oct 15, 2007
Sen. Kerry, John F. [D-MA]	D · MA		Oct 15, 2007
Sen. Obama, Barack [D-IL]	D · IL		Oct 15, 2007
Sen. Menendez, Robert [D-NJ]	D · NJ		Oct 17, 2007
Sen. Lincoln, Blanche L. [D-AR]	D · AR		Dec 10, 2007
Sen. Leahy, Patrick J. [D-VT]	D · VT		Dec 14, 2007

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Judiciary Committee	Senate	Reported By	Dec 11, 2007
Judiciary Committee	House	Referred to	Feb 4, 2008
Judiciary Committee	House	Markup by	May 6, 2008

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Crime and Law Enforcement

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
110 HR 3028	Related bill	Jul 12, 2007: Referred to the House Committee on Foreign Affairs.
110 HR 2620	Related bill	Jun 7, 2007: Referred to the House Committee on Foreign Affairs.
110 S 1175	Related bill	Apr 24, 2007: Committee on the Judiciary. Hearings held.

Summary (as of Oct 3, 2008)

(This measure has not been amended since it was passed by the House on September 8, 2008. The summary of that version is repeated here.)

Child Soldiers Accountability Act of 2008- Amends the federal criminal code to impose a fine and/or 20-year prison term for knowingly recruiting, enlisting, or conscripting a person under 15 years of age into an armed force or group (other than a group assembled solely for nonviolent political association) or using such person to participate actively in combat hostilities, or attempting or conspiring to do so, knowing such person is under 15 years of age. Imposes a life sentence if the death of any person results from a violation of this Act. Provides for: (1) expanded jurisdiction for prosecuting U.S. nationals and resident aliens who violate this Act; and (2) a 10-year limitation period for prosecuting violations.

Amends the Immigration and Nationality Act to render any alien who has recruited or used child soldiers inadmissible or deportable.

Directs the Attorney General and the Secretary of Homeland Security to promulgate final regulations to deny asylum or withholding of removal to aliens who are either inadmissible to the United States or deportable for recruiting or using child soldiers.

Actions Timeline

- **Oct 3, 2008:** Signed by President.
- **Oct 3, 2008:** Became Public Law No: 110-340.
- **Sep 25, 2008:** Presented to President.
- **Sep 16, 2008:** Message on Senate action sent to the House.
- **Sep 15, 2008:** Resolving differences -- Senate actions: Senate agreed to House amendment by Unanimous Consent.(consideration: CR S8513-8516; text as Senate agreed to House amendment: CR S8515-8516)
- **Sep 15, 2008:** Senate agreed to House amendment by Unanimous Consent. (consideration: CR S8513-8516; text as Senate agreed to House amendment: CR S8515-8516)
- **Sep 15, 2008:** Cleared for White House.
- **Sep 9, 2008:** Message on House action received in Senate and at desk: House amendment to Senate bill.
- **Sep 8, 2008:** Ms. Jackson-Lee moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.
- **Sep 8, 2008:** Considered under suspension of the rules. (consideration: CR H7820-7823)
- **Sep 8, 2008:** DEBATE - The House proceeded with forty minutes of debate on S. 2135.
- **Sep 8, 2008:** At the conclusion of debate, the Yeas and Nays were demanded and ordered. Pursuant to the provisions of clause 8, rule XX, the Chair announced that further proceedings on the motion would be postponed.
- **Sep 8, 2008:** Considered as unfinished business. (consideration: CR H7825)
- **Sep 8, 2008:** Passed/agreed to in House: On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended Agreed to by the Yeas and Nays: (2/3 required): 371 - 0 (Roll no. 569).(text: CR H7820)
- **Sep 8, 2008:** Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
- **Sep 8, 2008:** On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended Agreed to by the Yeas and Nays: (2/3 required): 371 - 0 (Roll no. 569). (text: CR H7820)
- **May 6, 2008:** Subcommittee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held.
- **Apr 8, 2008:** Subcommittee Hearings Held.
- **Feb 4, 2008:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Immigration, Citizenship, Refugees, Border Security, and International Law.
- **Feb 4, 2008:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security.
- **Dec 19, 2007:** Measure laid before Senate by unanimous consent. (consideration: CR 12/18/2007 S15941-15943; text of measure as reported in Senate: CR 12/18/2007 S15943; text as passed Senate: CR 12/18/2007 S15941)
- **Dec 19, 2007:** Passed/agreed to in Senate: Passed Senate with amendments by Unanimous Consent.
- **Dec 19, 2007:** Passed Senate with amendments by Unanimous Consent.
- **Dec 19, 2007:** Received in the House.
- **Dec 19, 2007:** Message on Senate action sent to the House.
- **Dec 19, 2007:** Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary.
- **Dec 11, 2007:** Committee on the Judiciary. Reported by Senator Leahy with an amendment. Without written report.
- **Dec 11, 2007:** Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 532.
- **Nov 8, 2007:** Committee on the Judiciary. Ordered to be reported with an amendment favorably.
- **Oct 3, 2007:** Introduced in Senate
- **Oct 3, 2007:** Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR S12535)
- **Oct 3, 2007:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. (text of measure as introduced: CR S12535-12536)