# S 1247

Orphans, Widows, and Widowers Protection Act

**Congress:** 111 (2009–2011, Ended)
**Chamber:** Senate
**Policy Area:** Immigration
**Introduced:** Jun 11, 2009
**Current Status:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.
**Latest Action:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.  (Jun 11, 2009)
**Official Text:**  https://www.congress.gov/bill/111th-congress/senate-bill/1247

## Sponsor

**Name:**  Sen. Menendez, Robert [D-NJ]
**Party:** Democratic  •  **State:** NJ  •  **Chamber:** Senate

## Cosponsors  (2 total)

| Cosponsor | Party / State | Role | Date Joined |
|---|---|---|---|
| Sen. Gillibrand, Kirsten E. [D-NY] | D · NY | | Jun 11, 2009 |
| Sen. Leahy, Patrick J. [D-VT] | D · VT | | Jun 11, 2009 |

## Committee Activity

| Committee | Chamber | Activity | Date |
|---|---|---|---|
| Judiciary Committee | Senate | Referred To | Jun 11, 2009 |

## Subjects & Policy Tags

**Policy Area:**

Immigration

## Related Bills

| Bill | Relationship | Last Action |
|---|---|---|
| 111 HR 2709 | Related bill | **Aug 19, 2009:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Immigration, Citizenship, Refugees, Border Security, and International Law. |
| 111 S 1085 | Related bill | **May 20, 2009:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. |

## Summary  (as of Jun 11, 2009)

Orphans, Widows, and Widowers Protection Act - Amends the Immigration and Nationality Act to revise the definition of "immediate relative" to: (1) permit a widow or widower of a U.S. citizen to seek permanent resident status if married less than two years by showing through a preponderance of the evidence that the marriage was entered into in good faith and not solely to obtain an immigration benefit; and (2) include an alien who was the child or parent of a U.S. citizen at the time of the citizen's death if the alien parent files a petition within two years after such date or the alien child files a petition prior to reaching 21 years old.

Provides specified relief for orphans and spouses regarding: (1) petitions for immediate relative status; (2) parole eligibility; (3) permanent resident status adjustment; and (4) processing of immigrant visas.

## Actions Timeline

- **Jun 11, 2009:** Introduced in Senate
- **Jun 11, 2009:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.