

## S 1530

### Children in Families First Act of 2013

**Congress:** 113 (2013–2015, Ended)

**Chamber:** Senate

**Policy Area:** International Affairs

**Introduced:** Sep 19, 2013

**Current Status:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

**Latest Action:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations. (Sep 19, 2013)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/113th-congress/senate-bill/1530>

## Sponsor

**Name:** Sen. Landrieu, Mary L. [D-LA]

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

## Cosponsors (16 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Blunt, Roy [R-MO]	R · MO		Sep 19, 2013
Sen. Burr, Richard [R-NC]	R · NC		Sep 19, 2013
Sen. Gillibrand, Kirsten E. [D-NY]	D · NY		Sep 19, 2013
Sen. Inhofe, James M. [R-OK]	R · OK		Sep 19, 2013
Sen. Kirk, Mark Steven [R-IL]	R · IL		Sep 19, 2013
Sen. Klobuchar, Amy [D-MN]	D · MN		Sep 19, 2013
Sen. Shaheen, Jeanne [D-NH]	D · NH		Sep 19, 2013
Sen. Warren, Elizabeth [D-MA]	D · MA		Sep 19, 2013
Sen. Wicker, Roger F. [R-MS]	R · MS		Sep 19, 2013
Sen. McCaskill, Claire [D-MO]	D · MO		Oct 8, 2013
Sen. Schumer, Charles E. [D-NY]	D · NY		Oct 8, 2013
Sen. Coons, Christopher A. [D-DE]	D · DE		Nov 7, 2013
Sen. Markey, Edward J. [D-MA]	D · MA		Nov 7, 2013
Sen. Schatz, Brian [D-HI]	D · HI		Nov 7, 2013
Sen. Casey, Robert P., Jr. [D-PA]	D · PA		Apr 10, 2014
Sen. King, Angus S., Jr. [I-ME]	I · ME		Apr 10, 2014

## Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Foreign Relations Committee	Senate	Referred To	Sep 19, 2013

## Subjects & Policy Tags

**Policy Area:**

International Affairs

## Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
113 S 2475	Related bill	Jun 17, 2014: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.
113 HR 4143	Related bill	Apr 16, 2014: Referred to the Subcommittee on Immigration and Border Security.
113 HR 3323	Related bill	Jan 9, 2014: Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, and Investigations.

## Summary (as of Sep 19, 2013)

Children in Families First Act of 2013 - Establishes within the Department of State the Bureau of Vulnerable Children and Family Security which shall: (1) support the implementation in foreign countries of child welfare laws and policies; and (2) establish within the Bureau a Senior Coordinator for Permanence who shall lead the implementation of policies to ensure permanent family care for children living without families, including refugee and stateless children.

States that the Bureau shall be headed by an Assistant Secretary and have lead responsibility for representing the U.S. government in diplomatic contacts pertaining to intercountry adoptions.

Amends the Intercountry Adoption Act of 2000 to direct the Secretary of Homeland Security (DHS), through U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS), to carry out the functions prescribed by the Convention regarding the accreditation of U.S. adoption services providers.

Establishes data bases for: (1) internationally adopted children, and (2) adoption service providers.

Transfers from the Secretary of State to the Field Operations Directorate of USCIS specified adoption-related functions, including accreditation of agencies and approval of persons to provide adoption services and oversight of provider investigations.

Requires the Secretary of Homeland Security (DHS), through USCIS, to: (1) be responsible for processing and case-specific decision-making on all intercountry adoption cases, (2) ensure that all intercountry adoption suitability and eligibility determinations of prospective adoptive parents are made in accordance with criteria that comply with the Hague Adoption Convention, (3) ensure that all non-Convention adoption cases undergo specified preprocessing, and (4) be responsible for all case-processing steps in Convention and non-Convention adoption petitions on behalf of children whom U.S. parents propose to immigrate to the United States.

Directs the Secretary of State to submit an annual report to Congress regarding children living without families.

Establishes within the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) a Center of Excellence on Children in Adversity.

Authorizes the President to provide assistance for programs in developing countries for nutrition, education, care, and protection of children.

Requires USAID to carry out a priority country demonstration program implementing the (December 2012) Action Plan for Children in Adversity over a period of five years in at least six countries.

## Actions Timeline

- Sep 19, 2013: Introduced in Senate
- Sep 19, 2013: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.