

HR 2036

Foster Children Opportunity Act

Congress: 113 (2013–2015, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Families

Introduced: May 16, 2013

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Department Operations, Oversight, and Nutrition.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Department Operations, Oversight, and Nutrition. (Jun 3, 2013)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/113th-congress/house-bill/2036>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. O'Rourke, Beto [D-TX-16]

Party: Democratic • State: TX • Chamber: House

Cosponsors (15 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Bass, Karen [D-CA-37]	D · CA		May 16, 2013
Rep. Grijalva, Raúl M. [D-AZ-3]	D · AZ		May 16, 2013
Rep. Lewis, John [D-GA-5]	D · GA		May 16, 2013
Rep. Roybal-Allard, Lucille [D-CA-40]	D · CA		May 16, 2013
Rep. Slaughter, Louise McIntosh [D-NY-25]	D · NY		May 16, 2013
Rep. Doggett, Lloyd [D-TX-35]	D · TX		May 17, 2013
Rep. Moore, Gwen [D-WI-4]	D · WI		May 17, 2013
Rep. Pocan, Mark [D-WI-2]	D · WI		May 17, 2013
Rep. Horsford, Steven [D-NV-4]	D · NV		May 20, 2013
Rep. Polis, Jared [D-CO-2]	D · CO		May 20, 2013
Rep. Wilson, Frederica S. [D-FL-24]	D · FL		May 21, 2013
Rep. Rangel, Charles B. [D-NY-13]	D · NY		May 22, 2013
Rep. Cohen, Steve [D-TN-9]	D · TN		Jun 3, 2013
Rep. Cartwright, Matt [D-PA-17]	D · PA		Jul 25, 2013
Rep. Hahn, Janice [D-CA-44]	D · CA		May 29, 2014

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Agriculture Committee	House	Referred to	Jun 3, 2013
Ways and Means Committee	House	Referred to	Jun 3, 2013

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Families

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Summary (as of May 16, 2013)

Foster Children Opportunity Act - Amends part E (Foster Care and Adoption Assistance) of title IV of the Social Security Act to require state plans for foster care and adoption assistance to have procedures to assist alien children in the child welfare system achieve special immigrant juvenile status and lawful permanent resident status before exiting foster care.

Requires case plans to include documentation of the steps the state child welfare agency is taking in assisting children obtain lawful immigrant status before exiting foster care.

Requires a permanency hearing to determine whether a petition for special immigrant juvenile status or lawful permanent resident status has been filed on behalf of an alien foster child and, if it has not been filed, whether it is in the child's best interest to have such a petition filed or to have immigration counsel appointed.

Authorizes the use of court improvement program grant funds to educate and train child welfare and court staff to assist alien children in achieving special immigrant juvenile status, lawful permanent resident status, and other forms of relief under immigration law.

Requires the Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS), on the request of a child welfare agency, to provide technical assistance in carrying out this Act. Authorizes the Secretary to award grants to and contract with qualified non-profit or other community-based service providers to perform the assistance.

Amends the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 to make an exception to the five-year limited eligibility of qualified aliens for federal means-tested public benefits for individuals who have obtained special immigrant juvenile status.

Makes a similar exception for such individuals with respect to the limited eligibility of qualified aliens for certain Federal programs.

Actions Timeline

- **Jun 3, 2013:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Human Resources.
- **Jun 3, 2013:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Department Operations, Oversight, and Nutrition.
- **May 16, 2013:** Introduced in House
- **May 16, 2013:** Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR H2666)
- **May 16, 2013:** Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Agriculture, 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.