

HR 3323

Children in Families First Act of 2013

Congress: 113 (2013–2015, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: International Affairs

Introduced: Oct 23, 2013

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, and Investigations.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, and Investigations. (Jan 9, 2014)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/113th-congress/house-bill/3323>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Granger, Kay [R-TX-12]

Party: Republican • **State:** TX • **Chamber:** House

Cosponsors (31 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Bachmann, Michele [R-MN-6]	R · MN		Oct 23, 2013
Rep. Bass, Karen [D-CA-37]	D · CA		Oct 23, 2013
Rep. Black, Diane [R-TN-6]	R · TN		Oct 23, 2013
Rep. Bonamici, Suzanne [D-OR-1]	D · OR		Oct 23, 2013
Rep. Braley, Bruce L. [D-IA-1]	D · IA		Oct 23, 2013
Rep. Brooks, Susan W. [R-IN-5]	R · IN		Oct 23, 2013
Rep. Cooper, Jim [D-TN-5]	D · TN		Oct 23, 2013
Rep. Diaz-Balart, Mario [R-FL-25]	R · FL		Oct 23, 2013
Rep. Doggett, Lloyd [D-TX-35]	D · TX		Oct 23, 2013
Rep. Franks, Trent [R-AZ-8]	R · AZ		Oct 23, 2013
Rep. Israel, Steve [D-NY-3]	D · NY		Oct 23, 2013
Rep. Jackson Lee, Sheila [D-TX-18]	D · TX		Oct 23, 2013
Rep. Johnson, Eddie Bernice [D-TX-30]	D · TX		Oct 23, 2013
Rep. Langevin, James R. [D-RI-2]	D · RI		Oct 23, 2013
Rep. Murphy, Patrick [D-FL-18]	D · FL		Oct 23, 2013
Rep. Olson, Pete [R-TX-22]	R · TX		Oct 23, 2013
Rep. Sensenbrenner, F. James, Jr. [R-WI-5]	R · WI		Oct 23, 2013
Rep. Sires, Albio [D-NJ-8]	D · NJ		Oct 23, 2013
Rep. Takano, Mark [D-CA-41]	D · CA		Oct 23, 2013
Rep. O'Rourke, Beto [D-TX-16]	D · TX		Oct 28, 2013
Rep. Richmond, Cedric L. [D-LA-2]	D · LA		Oct 28, 2013
Rep. Schiff, Adam B. [D-CA-28]	D · CA		Oct 28, 2013
Rep. Schwartz, Allyson Y. [D-PA-13]	D · PA		Nov 12, 2013
Rep. Wilson, Frederica S. [D-FL-24]	D · FL		Nov 12, 2013
Rep. Wolf, Frank R. [R-VA-10]	R · VA		Nov 18, 2013
Rep. Capito, Shelley Moore [R-WV-2]	R · WV		Nov 20, 2013
Rep. McGovern, James P. [D-MA-2]	D · MA		Dec 3, 2013
Rep. Cohen, Steve [D-TN-9]	D · TN		Dec 9, 2013
Rep. Rokita, Todd [R-IN-4]	R · IN		Dec 9, 2013
Rep. Bishop, Timothy H. [D-NY-1]	D · NY		Dec 11, 2013
Rep. Kennedy, Joseph P., III [D-MA-4]	D · MA		Dec 12, 2013

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Foreign Affairs Committee	House	Referred To	Oct 23, 2013
Judiciary Committee	House	Referred to	Jan 9, 2014
Judiciary Committee	House	Referred to	Jan 9, 2014

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 S 1530	Related bill	Sep 19, 2013: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

Summary (as of Oct 23, 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.

Prohibits: (1) the authorization of appropriations to carry out this Act, and (2) funds from being awarded to the United Nations (U.N.) or any of its subsidiaries.

Actions Timeline

- **Jan 9, 2014:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Immigration and Border Security.
- **Jan 9, 2014:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, and Investigations.
- **Oct 23, 2013:** Introduced in House
- **Oct 23, 2013:** Referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, 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.