

HR 4534

Native American Children's Safety Act

Congress: 113 (2013–2015, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Native Americans

Introduced: Apr 30, 2014

Current Status: Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 530.

Latest Action: Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 530. (Dec 22, 2014)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/113th-congress/house-bill/4534>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Cramer, Kevin [R-ND-At Large]

Party: Republican • **State:** ND • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors

No cosponsors are listed for this bill.

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Natural Resources Committee	House	Discharged from	Sep 18, 2014

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Native Americans

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
113 S 2160	Identical bill	Apr 2, 2014: Committee on Indian Affairs. Hearings held. Hearings printed: S.Hrg. 113-324.

Native American Children's Safety Act - Amends the Indian Child Protection and Family Violence Prevention Act (Act) to prohibit the final approval of any foster care placement by a tribal social services agency until the agency: (1) completes a criminal records check of each covered individual who resides in the household or is employed at the institution in which the foster care placement will be made, and (2) concludes that each of those individuals meets the standards the tribe is required to establish.

Defines a "covered individual" as an adult and any other individual the tribe determines is subject to a criminal records check.

Requires the tribal social services agency, as part of those investigations, to: (1) perform criminal records checks, including fingerprint-based checks of national crime information databases; (2) check any child abuse and neglect registry maintained by the state, and any tribal abuse registries maintained in the state, in which the individual resides; and (3) request any other state in which the individual resided during the preceding five years to allow the agency to check its registry.

Prohibits a foster care placement from being ordered if the investigation reveals that the covered individual has been found guilty by a federal, state, or tribal court of a felony involving child abuse or neglect, spousal abuse, a crime against a child, violence, or drugs.

Exempts emergency foster care placements from such requirements.

Requires each Indian tribe to establish procedures, within two years after this Act's enactment, to recertify homes or institutions in which foster care placements are made. Requires those procedures to include, at a minimum, periodic intervals at which the home or institution is subject to recertification to ensure: (1) the safety of the home or institution for the Indian child, and (2) that each covered individual who resides in the home or is employed at the institution is subject to a criminal records check in accordance with this Act's requirements.

Directs the Secretary of the Interior to promulgate guidance, within one year after this Act's enactment, regarding: (1) procedures for a criminal records check of any covered individual who resides in the home or is employed at the institution in which the child is placed after the investigations that preceded that placement occurred, (2) self-reporting requirements for foster care homes or institutions that have knowledge that a covered individual residing on their premises would fail the criminal records check, (3) procedures and guidelines for emergency foster care placements, and (4) procedures for certifying compliance with the Act.

Actions Timeline

- **Dec 22, 2014:** Reported (Amended) by the Committee on Natural Resources. H. Rept. 113-699.
- **Dec 22, 2014:** Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 530.
- **Sep 18, 2014:** Subcommittee Indian and Alaska Native Affairs Discharged.
- **Sep 18, 2014:** Committee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held.
- **Sep 18, 2014:** Ordered to be Reported (Amended) by Unanimous Consent.
- **Jul 29, 2014:** Subcommittee Hearings Held.
- **May 2, 2014:** Referred to the Subcommittee Indian and Alaska Native Affairs.
- **Apr 30, 2014:** Introduced in House
- **Apr 30, 2014:** Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.