

HR 651

Strengthening Refugee Resettlement Act

Congress: 113 (2013–2015, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Immigration

Introduced: Feb 13, 2013

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Immigration And Border Security.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Immigration And Border Security. (Apr 8, 2013)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/113th-congress/house-bill/651>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Ellison, Keith [D-MN-5]

Party: Democratic • **State:** MN • **Chamber:** House

Cosponsors (3 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Moran, James P. [D-VA-8]	D · VA		Feb 13, 2013
Rep. Schakowsky, Janice D. [D-IL-9]	D · IL		Feb 13, 2013
Rep. Brady, Robert A. [D-PA-1]	D · PA		Nov 18, 2014

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Foreign Affairs Committee	House	Referred To	Feb 13, 2013
Judiciary Committee	House	Referred to	Apr 8, 2013
Ways and Means Committee	House	Referred to	Feb 19, 2013

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Immigration

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Strengthening Refugee Resettlement Act - Directs the Secretary of Homeland Security (DHS) to work with the heads of other relevant federal agencies to conduct a review of refugee processing with the goal of streamlining processing, consistent with maintaining security.

Directs the Secretary of State (Secretary) to establish overseas refugee English language and work orientation training programs prior to the departure for the United States of refugees who have been approved for U.S. admission.

Permits: (1) refugees (and their spouses and children) to be admitted to the United States as lawful permanent residents, and (2) asylum seekers (and their spouses and children) to be granted lawful permanent residency.

Directs the Secretary when setting the amount of reception and placement grants to: (1) adjust the grant amount to account for anticipated initial refugee resettlement needs, and (2) ensure that funding is provided to national resettlement agencies at the beginning of the fiscal year.

Expresses the sense of the Congress that the President should appoint a White House Coordinator on Refugee Protection.

Requires the Director of the Office of Refugee Resettlement (Director) to make grants to national resettlement agencies to operate a case management system to assist individuals access eligible services, benefits, and assistance provided by the Office, federal, state, or local agencies, and private or nonprofit organizations.

Requires the Office, subject to available appropriations, to provide refugees with a minimum of 12 months' assistance and social services for employment, health, and living expenses.

Authorizes the Director to award grants to community-based organizations, nonprofit organizations, and resettlement agencies for programs to assist newcomers integrate into U.S. civic life.

Expands eligibility for, and participation in, the refugee matching grant program (federal-private refugee assistance).

Establishes a Domestic Emergency Refugee Resettlement Fund to meet unanticipated refugee resettlement needs.

Makes SSI (supplemental security income) benefits available to qualified aliens, U-visa aliens (victim of criminal activity), or certain T-visa aliens (victims of trafficking in persons) who were ineligible for such benefits because of their failure to acquire citizenship within seven years.

Makes a child who has been granted special immigrant status as a victim of criminal activity (U-visa) eligible for specified refugee benefits.

Actions Timeline

- **Apr 8, 2013:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Immigration And Border Security.
- **Feb 19, 2013:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Human Resources.
- **Feb 13, 2013:** Introduced in House
- **Feb 13, 2013:** Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committees on Foreign Affairs, and Ways and Means, 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.