

## S 2540

Fair Day in Court for Kids Act of 2016

**Congress:** 114 (2015–2017, Ended)

**Chamber:** Senate

**Policy Area:** Immigration

**Introduced:** Feb 11, 2016

**Current Status:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. (text of measure as introduced: CR S876-8

**Latest Action:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. (text of measure as introduced: CR S876-877)  
(Feb 11, 2016)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/senate-bill/2540>

### Sponsor

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**Name:** Sen. Reid, Harry [D-NV]

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

Cosponsors (28 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Brown, Sherrod [D-OH]	D · OH		Feb 11, 2016
Sen. Durbin, Richard J. [D-IL]	D · IL		Feb 11, 2016
Sen. Franken, Al [D-MN]	D · MN		Feb 11, 2016
Sen. Hirono, Mazie K. [D-HI]	D · HI		Feb 11, 2016
Sen. Leahy, Patrick J. [D-VT]	D · VT		Feb 11, 2016
Sen. Menendez, Robert [D-NJ]	D · NJ		Feb 11, 2016
Sen. Murray, Patty [D-WA]	D · WA		Feb 11, 2016
Sen. Udall, Tom [D-NM]	D · NM		Feb 11, 2016
Sen. Blumenthal, Richard [D-CT]	D · CT		Feb 22, 2016
Sen. Booker, Cory A. [D-NJ]	D · NJ		Feb 22, 2016
Sen. Sanders, Bernard [I-VT]	I · VT		Feb 22, 2016
Sen. Wyden, Ron [D-OR]	D · OR		Feb 24, 2016
Sen. Markey, Edward J. [D-MA]	D · MA		Feb 29, 2016
Sen. Gillibrand, Kirsten E. [D-NY]	D · NY		Mar 1, 2016
Sen. Boxer, Barbara [D-CA]	D · CA		Mar 7, 2016
Sen. Warren, Elizabeth [D-MA]	D · MA		Apr 6, 2016
Sen. Mikulski, Barbara A. [D-MD]	D · MD		Apr 7, 2016
Sen. Cantwell, Maria [D-WA]	D · WA		Apr 11, 2016
Sen. Coons, Christopher A. [D-DE]	D · DE		Apr 14, 2016
Sen. Casey, Robert P., Jr. [D-PA]	D · PA		Apr 20, 2016
Sen. Peters, Gary C. [D-MI]	D · MI		Apr 21, 2016
Sen. Baldwin, Tammy [D-WI]	D · WI		Apr 25, 2016
Sen. Merkley, Jeff [D-OR]	D · OR		Apr 28, 2016
Sen. Schatz, Brian [D-HI]	D · HI		May 9, 2016
Sen. Stabenow, Debbie [D-MI]	D · MI		May 9, 2016
Sen. Heinrich, Martin [D-NM]	D · NM		May 24, 2016
Sen. Cardin, Benjamin L. [D-MD]	D · MD		May 25, 2016
Sen. Murphy, Christopher [D-CT]	D · CT		May 26, 2016

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Judiciary Committee	Senate	Referred To	Feb 11, 2016

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Immigration

## Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
114 HR 5850	Related bill	<b>Sep 19, 2016:</b> Referred to the Subcommittee on Early Childhood, Elementary, and Secondary Education.
114 HR 5851	Related bill	<b>Aug 17, 2016:</b> Referred to the Subcommittee on Human Resources.
114 HR 4646	Related bill	<b>Apr 1, 2016:</b> Referred to the Subcommittee on Immigration and Border Security.

## Summary (as of Feb 11, 2016)

### Fair Day in Court for Kids Act of 2016

This bill amends the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA) to authorize the Department of Justice (DOJ) to appoint or provide counsel at government expense to aliens in removal proceedings.

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) shall provide an alien in removal proceedings with all relevant documents in its possession, unless the alien has knowingly waived the right to such documents. In the absence of a waiver a removal proceeding may not proceed until the alien has received, and had time to review, the documents.

DOJ may appoint or provide counsel to aliens in any INA proceeding.

DHS shall ensure that aliens have access to counsel inside all immigration detention and border facilities.

DOJ shall appoint counsel, at government expense if necessary, for an unaccompanied alien child or a particularly vulnerable individual.

DHS shall: (1) facilitate access to counsel for all aliens detained in facilities under the supervision of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement or of U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP); and (2) establish procedures to ensure that legal orientation programs are available for all detained aliens, including aliens held in CBP facilities.

DOJ shall develop and administer a two-year pilot program at not fewer than two immigration courts to grant access to legal information to non-detained aliens with pending asylum claims.

DHS shall establish a pilot program to increase the court appearance rates of unaccompanied alien children and particularly vulnerable individuals by contracting with nongovernmental, community-based organizations to provide such aliens with case management services.

## Actions Timeline

- **Feb 11, 2016:** Introduced in Senate
- **Feb 11, 2016:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. (text of measure as introduced: CR S876-877)