

HR 5454

Adoptee Citizenship Act of 2016

Congress: 114 (2015–2017, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Immigration

Introduced: Jun 10, 2016

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

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Immigration and Border Security. (Jun 15, 2016)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/house-bill/5454>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Smith, Adam [D-WA-9]

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

Cosponsors (7 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Franks, Trent [R-AZ-8]	R · AZ		Jun 10, 2016
Rep. Comstock, Barbara [R-VA-10]	R · VA		Nov 16, 2016
Rep. Ellison, Keith [D-MN-5]	D · MN		Nov 16, 2016
Rep. Lofgren, Zoe [D-CA-19]	D · CA		Nov 16, 2016
Rep. Smith, Christopher H. [R-NJ-4]	R · NJ		Nov 16, 2016
Rep. Schakowsky, Janice D. [D-IL-9]	D · IL		Dec 6, 2016
Rep. Walters, Mimi [R-CA-45]	R · CA		Dec 6, 2016

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Judiciary Committee	House	Referred to	Jun 15, 2016

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Immigration

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
114 S 2275	Related bill	Nov 10, 2015: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Adoptee Citizenship Act of 2016

This bill amends the Immigration and Nationality Act to grant automatic citizenship to all qualifying children adopted by a U.S. citizen parent, regardless of the date on which the adoption was finalized.

An individual born outside of the United States who was adopted by a U.S. citizen parent shall automatically become a U.S. citizen when the following conditions have been fulfilled:

- the individual was adopted by a U.S. citizen before the individual reached age 18,
- the individual was physically present in the United States in the citizen parent's legal custody pursuant to a lawful admission before the individual reached age 18,
- the individual never acquired U.S. citizenship before the enactment of this Act, and
- the individual was lawfully residing in the United States on the date of enactment of this Act.

An individual who meets such criteria, except for lawfully residing in the United States on the date of enactment of this Act, shall automatically become a U.S. citizen on the date on which the individual is physically present in the United States pursuant to a lawful admission.

A visa may not be issued to such an individual unless:

- the individual was subjected to a criminal background check; and
- the Department of Homeland Security and the Department of State coordinated with law enforcement agencies to ensure that appropriate action is taken regarding any unresolved criminal activity.

Actions Timeline

- **Jun 15, 2016:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Immigration and Border Security.
- **Jun 10, 2016:** Introduced in House
- **Jun 10, 2016:** Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary.

LegiList

CONGRESS, MADE CLEAR.

Search Every Federal Bill, Law, and Vote

LegiList is the fastest way to research Congress. Track any bill from introduction to enactment, see how every legislator voted, follow committee activity, and read the full text of every bill — all in one place, always up to date.

legilist.com

Free Course: Learn How Congress Actually Works

LegiList Learn is a free, self-paced course that walks through the entire legislative process — from drafting a bill to a presidential signature. Seven modules, plain language, no politics. Earn a certificate when you finish.

legilist.com/learn

Developer API: Build Apps on Legislative Data

The LegiList API gives developers direct access to bills, votes, legislators, committees, and more. Start free with 1,000 requests per day — no credit card required. Upgrade to Pro when you need to scale.

legilist.com/api

Public data belongs to the public. — legilist.com