

HR 2866

Reducing Unnecessary Barriers for Relative Foster Parents Act

Congress: 115 (2017–2019, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Families

Introduced: Jun 8, 2017

Current Status: Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.

Latest Action: Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance. (Jun 21, 2017)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/2866>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Smucker, Lloyd [R-PA-16]

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

Cosponsors (7 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Sewell, Terri A. [D-AL-7]	D · AL		Jun 8, 2017
Rep. Bass, Karen [D-CA-37]	D · CA		Jun 13, 2017
Rep. Davis, Danny K. [D-IL-7]	D · IL		Jun 13, 2017
Rep. Kelly, Mike [R-PA-3]	R · PA		Jun 13, 2017
Rep. Carson, Andre [D-IN-7]	D · IN		Jun 15, 2017
Rep. Lawrence, Brenda L. [D-MI-14]	D · MI		Jun 15, 2017
Rep. Cartwright, Matt [D-PA-17]	D · PA		Jun 16, 2017

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Finance Committee	Senate	Referred To	Jun 21, 2017
Ways and Means Committee	House	Referred to	Jun 12, 2017

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Families

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
115 HR 1892	Related bill	Feb 9, 2018: Became Public Law No: 115-123.
115 HR 253	Related bill	Jan 13, 2017: Referred to the Subcommittee on Human Resources.

Reducing Unnecessary Barriers for Relative Foster Parents Act

(Sec. 2) This bill requires the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to identify reputable model standards for the licensing of foster family homes.

Part E (Foster Care and Adoption Assistance) of title IV of the Social Security Act is amended to require state plans for foster care and adoption assistance to require submission to HHS of information addressing:

- whether the state licensing standards are in accord with HHS-identified model standards, and if not, the reason for the specific deviation and a description of why having a standard that is reasonably in accord with the corresponding national model standards is not appropriate for the state;
- whether the state has elected to waive certain standards for relative foster family homes, a description of standards most commonly waived, and if the state has not so elected, the reason why;
- if the state has elected to waive such standards, how caseworkers are trained to use the waiver authority and whether the state has developed a process or offered tools to assist caseworkers in waiving nonsafety standards to quickly place children with relatives; and
- a description of the steps the state is taking to improve caseworker training or the process, if any.

Actions Timeline

- **Jun 21, 2017:** Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.
- **Jun 20, 2017:** Mr. Kelly (PA) moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.
- **Jun 20, 2017:** Considered under suspension of the rules. (consideration: CR H4955-4958)
- **Jun 20, 2017:** DEBATE - The House proceeded with forty minutes of debate on H.R. 2866.
- **Jun 20, 2017:** At the conclusion of debate, the Yeas and Nays were demanded and ordered. Pursuant to the provisions of clause 8, rule XX, the Chair announced that further proceedings on the motion would be postponed.
- **Jun 20, 2017:** Considered as unfinished business. (consideration: CR H4979)
- **Jun 20, 2017:** Passed/agreed to in House: On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended Agreed to by the Yeas and Nays: (2/3 required): 382 - 19 (Roll no. 310). (text: CR H4955)
- **Jun 20, 2017:** On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended Agreed to by the Yeas and Nays: (2/3 required): 382 - 19 (Roll no. 310). (text: CR H4955)
- **Jun 20, 2017:** Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
- **Jun 12, 2017:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Human Resources.
- **Jun 8, 2017:** Introduced in House
- **Jun 8, 2017:** Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means.