

S 3036

Keep Families Together Act

Congress: 115 (2017–2019, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Immigration

Introduced: Jun 7, 2018

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. (Jun 7, 2018)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/senate-bill/3036>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Feinstein, Dianne [D-CA]

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

Cosponsors (48 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Baldwin, Tammy [D-WI]	D · WI		Jun 7, 2018
Sen. Bennet, Michael F. [D-CO]	D · CO		Jun 7, 2018
Sen. Blumenthal, Richard [D-CT]	D · CT		Jun 7, 2018
Sen. Booker, Cory A. [D-NJ]	D · NJ		Jun 7, 2018
Sen. Carper, Thomas R. [D-DE]	D · DE		Jun 7, 2018
Sen. Casey, Robert P., Jr. [D-PA]	D · PA		Jun 7, 2018
Sen. Cortez Masto, Catherine [D-NV]	D · NV		Jun 7, 2018
Sen. Durbin, Richard J. [D-IL]	D · IL		Jun 7, 2018
Sen. Gillibrand, Kirsten E. [D-NY]	D · NY		Jun 7, 2018
Sen. Harris, Kamala D. [D-CA]	D · CA		Jun 7, 2018
Sen. Heinrich, Martin [D-NM]	D · NM		Jun 7, 2018
Sen. Hirono, Mazie K. [D-HI]	D · HI		Jun 7, 2018
Sen. Kaine, Tim [D-VA]	D · VA		Jun 7, 2018
Sen. King, Angus S., Jr. [I-ME]	I · ME		Jun 7, 2018
Sen. Klobuchar, Amy [D-MN]	D · MN		Jun 7, 2018
Sen. Leahy, Patrick J. [D-VT]	D · VT		Jun 7, 2018
Sen. Markey, Edward J. [D-MA]	D · MA		Jun 7, 2018
Sen. Menendez, Robert [D-NJ]	D · NJ		Jun 7, 2018
Sen. Merkley, Jeff [D-OR]	D · OR		Jun 7, 2018
Sen. Murphy, Christopher [D-CT]	D · CT		Jun 7, 2018
Sen. Murray, Patty [D-WA]	D · WA		Jun 7, 2018
Sen. Nelson, Bill [D-FL]	D · FL		Jun 7, 2018
Sen. Reed, Jack [D-RI]	D · RI		Jun 7, 2018
Sen. Sanders, Bernard [I-VT]	I · VT		Jun 7, 2018
Sen. Schatz, Brian [D-HI]	D · HI		Jun 7, 2018
Sen. Schumer, Charles E. [D-NY]	D · NY		Jun 7, 2018
Sen. Shaheen, Jeanne [D-NH]	D · NH		Jun 7, 2018
Sen. Udall, Tom [D-NM]	D · NM		Jun 7, 2018
Sen. Warner, Mark R. [D-VA]	D · VA		Jun 7, 2018
Sen. Warren, Elizabeth [D-MA]	D · MA		Jun 7, 2018
Sen. Wyden, Ron [D-OR]	D · OR		Jun 7, 2018
Sen. Cantwell, Maria [D-WA]	D · WA		Jun 11, 2018
Sen. Van Hollen, Chris [D-MD]	D · MD		Jun 11, 2018
Sen. Whitehouse, Sheldon [D-RI]	D · RI		Jun 11, 2018
Sen. Duckworth, Tammy [D-IL]	D · IL		Jun 13, 2018
Sen. Hassan, Margaret Wood [D-NH]	D · NH		Jun 13, 2018
Sen. Smith, Tina [D-MN]	D · MN		Jun 13, 2018
Sen. Coons, Christopher A. [D-DE]	D · DE		Jun 14, 2018
Sen. Peters, Gary C. [D-MI]	D · MI		Jun 14, 2018
Sen. Brown, Sherrod [D-OH]	D · OH		Jun 18, 2018
Sen. Cardin, Benjamin L. [D-MD]	D · MD		Jun 18, 2018

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Donnelly, Joe [D-IN]	D · IN		Jun 18, 2018
Sen. Heitkamp, Heidi [D-ND]	D · ND		Jun 18, 2018
Sen. Jones, Doug [D-AL]	D · AL		Jun 18, 2018
Sen. Manchin, Joe, III [D-WV]	D · WV		Jun 18, 2018
Sen. McCaskill, Claire [D-MO]	D · MO		Jun 18, 2018
Sen. Stabenow, Debbie [D-MI]	D · MI		Jun 18, 2018
Sen. Tester, Jon [D-MT]	D · MT		Jun 18, 2018

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Judiciary Committee	Senate	Referred To	Jun 7, 2018

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Immigration

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
115 HR 6135	Related bill	Jul 30, 2018: Referred to the Subcommittee on Immigration and Border Security.
115 S 3263	Related bill	Jul 25, 2018: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. (text of measure as introduced: CR S5363-5366)

Summary (as of Jun 7, 2018)

Keep Families Together Act

This bill prohibits an agent or contractor of the Department of Homeland Security, the Department of Justice, or the Department of Health and Human Services from removing a child who is under the age of 18 and has no permanent immigration status from his or her parent or legal guardian at or near the port of entry or within 100 miles of the U.S. border unless:

- an authorized state court determines that it is in the child's best interests to be removed;
- a state or county child welfare official with expertise in child trauma and development determines that it is in the child's best interests to be removed because of abuse or neglect; or
- the Chief Patrol Agent or the Area Port Director authorizes separation based on a documented finding that the child is a trafficking victim or is at significant risk of becoming a victim, a strong likelihood exists that the adult is not the parent or legal guardian, or the child is in danger of abuse or neglect.

An agency may not remove a child from a parent or legal guardian solely for the policy goals of deterring migration to the United States or of promoting immigration law compliance.

The bill sets forth presumptions: (1) in favor of family and sibling unity and parental rights, and (2) that detention is not in the best interests of families and children.

The Government Accountability Office shall conduct a study of the prosecution of asylum seekers.

Actions Timeline

- **Jun 7, 2018:** Introduced in Senate
- **Jun 7, 2018:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

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