

S 3227

REUNITE Act

Congress: 115 (2017–2019, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Immigration

Introduced: Jul 17, 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. (Jul 17, 2018)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/senate-bill/3227>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Harris, Kamala D. [D-CA]

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

Cosponsors (17 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Blumenthal, Richard [D-CT]	D · CT		Jul 17, 2018
Sen. Booker, Cory A. [D-NJ]	D · NJ		Jul 17, 2018
Sen. Carper, Thomas R. [D-DE]	D · DE		Jul 17, 2018
Sen. Cortez Masto, Catherine [D-NV]	D · NV		Jul 17, 2018
Sen. Duckworth, Tammy [D-IL]	D · IL		Jul 17, 2018
Sen. Gillibrand, Kirsten E. [D-NY]	D · NY		Jul 17, 2018
Sen. Kaine, Tim [D-VA]	D · VA		Jul 17, 2018
Sen. Markey, Edward J. [D-MA]	D · MA		Jul 17, 2018
Sen. Menendez, Robert [D-NJ]	D · NJ		Jul 17, 2018
Sen. Merkley, Jeff [D-OR]	D · OR		Jul 17, 2018
Sen. Sanders, Bernard [I-VT]	I · VT		Jul 17, 2018
Sen. Warren, Elizabeth [D-MA]	D · MA		Jul 17, 2018
Sen. Wyden, Ron [D-OR]	D · OR		Jul 17, 2018
Sen. Bennet, Michael F. [D-CO]	D · CO		Jul 18, 2018
Sen. Smith, Tina [D-MN]	D · MN		Jul 23, 2018
Sen. Van Hollen, Chris [D-MD]	D · MD		Jul 23, 2018
Sen. Cardin, Benjamin L. [D-MD]	D · MD		Aug 23, 2018

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Judiciary Committee	Senate	Referred To	Jul 17, 2018

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Immigration

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
115 HR 6594	Related bill	Oct 1, 2018: Referred to the Subcommittee on Immigration and Border Security.

Summary (as of Jul 17, 2018)

Reunite Every Unaccompanied Newborn Infant, Toddler and other children Expeditiously Act or the REUNITE Act

This bill directs the Departments of Homeland Security (DHS) and Health and Human Services (HHS), after consultation with humanitarian organizations, child welfare agencies, and states bordering Mexico, to promulgate and publish a rule describing efforts that DHS and HHS will undertake to aid apprehended parents or legal guardians in locating and reuniting with any children (under age 18 with no permanent immigration status) separated from them at or near the port of entry, or within 100 miles of the border. DHS, HHS, and the Department of Justice (DOJ) must provide apprehended parents or legal guardians separated from their children with written notice, in a language understandable to them, of any rules or guidance that may assist them in locating and reuniting with their children.

The bill permits DHS and HHS to use DNA testing to determine family relationships subject to certain requirements, after using other commonly-used techniques for determining such relationships.

DHS must establish secure alternative programs that incorporate case management services in each DHS field office to ensure appearances by alien parents and children at immigration proceedings and public safety and to provide for community-based alternatives to detention.

DHS, DOJ, and HHS shall establish an interagency Office for Locating and Reuniting Children with Parents for facilitating the reunification of children and apprehended parents or legal guardians after entering the United States.

Actions Timeline

- Jul 17, 2018: Introduced in Senate
- Jul 17, 2018: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.