

HR 6707

Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative Improvement Act of 2018

Congress: 115 (2017–2019, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: International Affairs

Introduced: Sep 5, 2018

Current Status: Referred to the House Committee on Foreign Affairs.

Latest Action: Referred to the House Committee on Foreign Affairs. (Sep 5, 2018)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/6707>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Gonzalez, Vicente [D-TX-15]

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

Cosponsors (2 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Espaillat, Adriano [D-NY-13]	D · NY		Sep 5, 2018
Rep. Gomez, Jimmy [D-CA-34]	D · CA		Sep 5, 2018

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Foreign Affairs Committee	House	Referred To	Sep 5, 2018

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

International Affairs

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

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This bill establishes certain standards for U.S. passport applications.

The Department of State shall adjudicate U.S. passport applications in an individualized, evidence-based manner based on an assessment of individual circumstances and evidence. An applicant's race, ethnicity, or ancestry may not be considered in such adjudicatory process.

The bill requires that:

- an applicant establish U.S. citizenship or nationality by a preponderance of the evidence, and
- a determination that an applicant has not met such evidentiary burden state in writing the reasons for the determination and be provided to the applicant in a timely manner.

A birth certificate signed by a person authorized under state law to sign such a document, or a previously-issued U.S. passport, shall constitute prima facie evidence of U.S. citizenship or nationality and, absent individualized evidence that a birth did not take place in the United States, shall satisfy the preponderance of the evidence standard.

Actions Timeline

- **Sep 5, 2018:** Introduced in House
- **Sep 5, 2018:** Referred to the House Committee on Foreign Affairs.