

## HR 2098

Veterans Visa and Protection Act of 2019

**Congress:** 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

**Chamber:** House

**Policy Area:** Armed Forces and National Security

**Introduced:** Apr 4, 2019

**Current Status:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Immigration and Citizenship.

**Latest Action:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Immigration and Citizenship. (May 15, 2019)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/2098>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Rep. Grijalva, Raúl M. [D-AZ-3]

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

### Cosponsors (7 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Del. Norton, Eleanor Holmes [D-DC-At Large]	D · DC		May 17, 2019
Rep. Jackson Lee, Sheila [D-TX-18]	D · TX		May 17, 2019
Rep. McGovern, James P. [D-MA-2]	D · MA		May 17, 2019
Rep. Schakowsky, Janice D. [D-IL-9]	D · IL		May 17, 2019
Rep. Moore, Gwen [D-WI-4]	D · WI		Jun 11, 2019
Rep. Omar, Ilhan [D-MN-5]	D · MN		Jun 11, 2019
Rep. Vela, Filemon [D-TX-34]	D · TX		Oct 4, 2019

### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Armed Services Committee	House	Referred to	Apr 5, 2019
Judiciary Committee	House	Referred to	May 15, 2019
Veterans' Affairs Committee	House	Referred to	Apr 29, 2019

### Subjects & Policy Tags

#### Policy Area:

Armed Forces and National Security

### Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
116 S 1041	Related bill	<b>Apr 4, 2019:</b> Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

## Veterans Visa and Protection Act of 2021

This bill provides permanent resident status and citizenship eligibility to certain noncitizen veterans and addresses related issues.

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) must establish a program that allows (1) eligible noncitizen veterans outside of the United States to be admitted as permanent residents, and (2) eligible noncitizen veterans in the United States to obtain permanent resident status.

Generally, an eligible noncitizen veteran under this bill is one who was not removed from the United States for certain crimes related to violence or national security. DHS may waive these eligibility requirements for humanitarian, family unity, public interest, or exceptional military service reasons.

A noncitizen veteran who obtains permanent resident status under this bill shall be eligible for (1) naturalization through service in the Armed Forces, and (2) military and veterans benefits as if they had not been removed (or ordered removed) from the United States.

For a noncitizen veteran in removal proceedings or subject to a final removal order, the Department of Justice (DOJ) must determine whether the veteran is eligible for permanent resident status under this bill. If the veteran is eligible, DOJ must adjust the veteran's status.

The bill also protects noncitizen veterans or service members from being removed from the United States unless the veteran has been convicted of a crime of violence.

## Actions Timeline

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- **May 15, 2019:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Immigration and Citizenship.
- **Apr 29, 2019:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs.
- **Apr 5, 2019:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Military Personnel.
- **Apr 4, 2019:** Introduced in House
- **Apr 4, 2019:** Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committees on Armed Services, and Veterans' Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.