

S 292

Keep Families Together Act

Congress: 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Immigration

Introduced: Jan 31, 2019

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. (Sponsor introductory remarks on measure:

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. (Sponsor introductory remarks on measure: CR S802-803) (Jan 31, 2019)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/senate-bill/292>

Sponsor

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

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

Cosponsors (41 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Baldwin, Tammy [D-WI]	D · WI		Jan 31, 2019
Sen. Bennet, Michael F. [D-CO]	D · CO		Jan 31, 2019
Sen. Blumenthal, Richard [D-CT]	D · CT		Jan 31, 2019
Sen. Booker, Cory A. [D-NJ]	D · NJ		Jan 31, 2019
Sen. Brown, Sherrod [D-OH]	D · OH		Jan 31, 2019
Sen. Cantwell, Maria [D-WA]	D · WA		Jan 31, 2019
Sen. Cardin, Benjamin L. [D-MD]	D · MD		Jan 31, 2019
Sen. Carper, Thomas R. [D-DE]	D · DE		Jan 31, 2019
Sen. Casey, Robert P., Jr. [D-PA]	D · PA		Jan 31, 2019
Sen. Coons, Christopher A. [D-DE]	D · DE		Jan 31, 2019
Sen. Cortez Masto, Catherine [D-NV]	D · NV		Jan 31, 2019
Sen. Duckworth, Tammy [D-IL]	D · IL		Jan 31, 2019
Sen. Gillibrand, Kirsten E. [D-NY]	D · NY		Jan 31, 2019
Sen. Harris, Kamala D. [D-CA]	D · CA		Jan 31, 2019
Sen. Hassan, Margaret Wood [D-NH]	D · NH		Jan 31, 2019
Sen. Heinrich, Martin [D-NM]	D · NM		Jan 31, 2019
Sen. Hirono, Mazie K. [D-HI]	D · HI		Jan 31, 2019
Sen. Jones, Doug [D-AL]	D · AL		Jan 31, 2019
Sen. Kaine, Tim [D-VA]	D · VA		Jan 31, 2019
Sen. King, Angus S., Jr. [I-ME]	I · ME		Jan 31, 2019
Sen. Klobuchar, Amy [D-MN]	D · MN		Jan 31, 2019
Sen. Leahy, Patrick J. [D-VT]	D · VT		Jan 31, 2019
Sen. Markey, Edward J. [D-MA]	D · MA		Jan 31, 2019
Sen. Menendez, Robert [D-NJ]	D · NJ		Jan 31, 2019
Sen. Merkley, Jeff [D-OR]	D · OR		Jan 31, 2019
Sen. Murphy, Christopher [D-CT]	D · CT		Jan 31, 2019
Sen. Murray, Patty [D-WA]	D · WA		Jan 31, 2019
Sen. Peters, Gary C. [D-MI]	D · MI		Jan 31, 2019
Sen. Reed, Jack [D-RI]	D · RI		Jan 31, 2019
Sen. Rosen, Jacky [D-NV]	D · NV		Jan 31, 2019
Sen. Sanders, Bernard [I-VT]	I · VT		Jan 31, 2019
Sen. Schatz, Brian [D-HI]	D · HI		Jan 31, 2019
Sen. Shaheen, Jeanne [D-NH]	D · NH		Jan 31, 2019
Sen. Smith, Tina [D-MN]	D · MN		Jan 31, 2019
Sen. Stabenow, Debbie [D-MI]	D · MI		Jan 31, 2019
Sen. Udall, Tom [D-NM]	D · NM		Jan 31, 2019
Sen. Van Hollen, Chris [D-MD]	D · MD		Jan 31, 2019
Sen. Warner, Mark R. [D-VA]	D · VA		Jan 31, 2019
Sen. Warren, Elizabeth [D-MA]	D · MA		Jan 31, 2019
Sen. Whitehouse, Sheldon [D-RI]	D · RI		Jan 31, 2019
Sen. Wyden, Ron [D-OR]	D · OR		Jan 31, 2019

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Judiciary Committee	Senate	Referred To	Jan 31, 2019

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Immigration

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
116 HR 9040	Related bill	Dec 21, 2020: Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Homeland Security, 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.
116 HR 3918	Related bill	Aug 6, 2019: Referred to the Subcommittee on Immigration and Citizenship.
116 S 2113	Related bill	Jul 15, 2019: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.
116 S 1733	Related bill	Jun 5, 2019: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. (Sponsor introductory remarks on measure: CR S3256; text: CR S2356-3258)
116 HR 541	Related bill	Feb 25, 2019: Referred to the Subcommittee on Immigration and Citizenship.

Summary (as of Jan 31, 2019)

Keep Families Together Act

This bill limits the separation of families at or near U.S. borders or ports of entry.

The Departments of Homeland Security (DHS), Justice, and Health and Human Services shall not separate a child from a parent or legal guardian at a port of entry or within 100 miles of a U.S. border unless

- a state court terminates the parent or legal guardian's rights;
- a state child welfare agency or court determines it is in the child's best interests to be removed; or
- the child is determined to be a trafficking victim or at risk of becoming one, the accompanying adult is most likely not the parent or legal guardian, or the child is in danger of abuse or neglect.

An agency may not separate a child from a parent or legal guardian solely to deter migration into the United States or to promote compliance with immigration laws.

DHS shall develop (1) training related to the bill's family separation requirements, and (2) guidance for how parents and legal guardians may locate a separated child. DHS shall provide parents and legal guardians periodic status updates about a separated child.

The Government Accountability Office shall report to Congress on the criminal prosecution of asylum seekers.

Actions Timeline

- **Jan 31, 2019:** Introduced in Senate
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