

S 4110

Hong Kong Safe Harbor Act

Congress: 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Immigration

Introduced: Jun 30, 2020

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 30, 2020)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/senate-bill/4110>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Rubio, Marco [R-FL]

Party: Republican • **State:** FL • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (11 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Cardin, Benjamin L. [D-MD]	D · MD		Jun 30, 2020
Sen. Menendez, Robert [D-NJ]	D · NJ		Jun 30, 2020
Sen. Merkley, Jeff [D-OR]	D · OR		Jun 30, 2020
Sen. Young, Todd [R-IN]	R · IN		Jun 30, 2020
Sen. Warren, Elizabeth [D-MA]	D · MA		Jul 20, 2020
Sen. Wyden, Ron [D-OR]	D · OR		Jul 20, 2020
Sen. Cornyn, John [R-TX]	R · TX		Sep 8, 2020
Sen. Durbin, Richard J. [D-IL]	D · IL		Sep 8, 2020
Sen. Blumenthal, Richard [D-CT]	D · CT		Sep 16, 2020
Sen. Lankford, James [R-OK]	R · OK		Nov 18, 2020
Sen. Coons, Christopher A. [D-DE]	D · DE		Dec 9, 2020

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Judiciary Committee	Senate	Referred To	Jun 30, 2020

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Immigration

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
116 S 4631	Related bill	Sep 21, 2020: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.
116 HR 7415	Identical bill	Jun 30, 2020: Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Foreign 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.

Summary (as of Jun 30, 2020)

Hong Kong Safe Harbor Act

This bill designates certain Hong Kong residents with priority status for refugee consideration and contains other related provisions.

An individual and certain family members shall have such priority status if the individual (1) is a Hong Kong resident who suffered persecution or has a well-founded fear of persecution as a result of peaceful political activity; or (2) has been formally charged, detained, or convicted for certain peaceful actions. An individual receiving refugee status under this bill shall not be counted against various numerical limitations.

When determining whether an individual shall be admitted as a refugee under this bill, an individual whose citizenship, nationality, or residency was revoked for submitting a nonfrivolous application for a U.S. immigration benefit shall be considered to have suffered persecution on account of political opinion.

The general presumption that an alien is seeking immigrant status shall not apply to certain Hong Kong residents seeking asylum into the United States. (Typically, an alien seeking admission as a nonimmigrant must establish that the alien does not intend to immigrate to the United States.) This exception to the presumption shall apply to certain individuals involved in the 2019 and 2020 protests against China's encroachment into Hong Kong's autonomy (Hong Kong is a part of China but has a separate legal and economic system).

An individual from Hong Kong may not be denied admission into the United States if the primary reason for the denial is a politically motivated government action against the individual's involvement in protests.

Actions Timeline

- **Jun 30, 2020:** Introduced in Senate
- **Jun 30, 2020:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.