

HR 574

Equal Protection of Unaccompanied Minors Act

Congress: 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Immigration

Introduced: Jan 15, 2019

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

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Immigration and Citizenship. (Feb 25, 2019)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/574>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Meadows, Mark [R-NC-11]

Party: Republican • **State:** NC • **Chamber:** House

Cosponsors

No cosponsors are listed for this bill.

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Foreign Affairs Committee	House	Referred To	Jan 15, 2019
Homeland Security Committee	House	Referred to	Feb 4, 2019
Homeland Security Committee	House	Referred to	Feb 4, 2019
Judiciary Committee	House	Referred to	Feb 25, 2019

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Immigration

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
116 HR 3940	Related bill	Aug 15, 2019: Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security.
116 HR 3857	Related bill	Aug 12, 2019: Referred to the Subcommittee on Immigration and Citizenship.
116 HR 3860	Related bill	Aug 12, 2019: Referred to the Subcommittee on Immigration and Citizenship.
116 HR 1928	Related bill	May 3, 2019: Referred to the Subcommittee on Immigration and Citizenship.
116 HR 1106	Related bill	Mar 25, 2019: Referred to the Subcommittee on Immigration and Citizenship.
116 S 599	Related bill	Feb 28, 2019: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.
116 HR 517	Related bill	Feb 25, 2019: Referred to the Subcommittee on Immigration and Citizenship.
116 HR 586	Related bill	Feb 25, 2019: Referred to the Subcommittee on Immigration and Citizenship.
116 HR 98	Related bill	Jan 3, 2019: Referred to the Subcommittee on Immigration and Citizenship.

Equal Protection of Unaccompanied Minors Act

This bill amends rules for the treatment of unaccompanied alien children and asylum-seeking families, and for detaining and removal of various types of aliens.

The bill requires the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to return an inadmissible unaccompanied child to the child's country of nationality or last habitual residence, where currently DHS has discretion to do so.

Interviews with unaccompanied alien children shall be conducted by those with specialized training for interviewing child trafficking victims.

Before placing an alien child with an individual, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) shall provide DHS with various information, including the individual's immigration status and contact information. DHS shall initiate removal proceedings if the individual is unlawfully present in the United States.

Under the bill, unaccompanied alien children in DHS or HHS custody shall have access to counsel in legal proceedings, where currently such children shall have counsel.

DHS shall have authority to extend the detention periods for various categories of removable aliens. The bill also expands the definitions of various types of crimes, such as those related to explosive materials, that are aggravated felonies or crimes of violence for immigration purposes. Aliens associated with criminal gangs shall be inadmissible to the United States and deportable.

The bill directs DHS, the Department of Justice, and HHS to maintain facilities for housing asylum applicants and their children, and increases the number of immigration judges and Board of Immigration Appeals attorneys and necessary support staff.

Actions Timeline

- **Feb 25, 2019:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Immigration and Citizenship.
- **Feb 4, 2019:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Oversight, Management, and Accountability.
- **Feb 4, 2019:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Border Security, Facilitation, and Operations.
- **Jan 15, 2019:** Introduced in House
- **Jan 15, 2019:** Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committees on Foreign Affairs, and 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.