

HR 6537

FIRST Act

Congress: 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Immigration

Introduced: Apr 17, 2020

Current Status: Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary.

Latest Action: Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary. (Apr 17, 2020)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/6537>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Jayapal, Pramila [D-WA-7]

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

Cosponsors (44 total)

| Cosponsor | Party / State | Role | Date Joined |
|---|---------------|------|--------------|
| Del. Norton, Eleanor Holmes [D-DC-At Large] | D · DC | | Apr 17, 2020 |
| Rep. Blumenauer, Earl [D-OR-3] | D · OR | | Apr 17, 2020 |
| Rep. Cárdenas, Tony [D-CA-29] | D · CA | | Apr 17, 2020 |
| Rep. Chu, Judy [D-CA-27] | D · CA | | Apr 17, 2020 |
| Rep. Espaillat, Adriano [D-NY-13] | D · NY | | Apr 17, 2020 |
| Rep. Garcia, Jesus G. "Chuy" [D-IL-4] | D · IL | | Apr 17, 2020 |
| Rep. Garcia, Sylvia R. [D-TX-29] | D · TX | | Apr 17, 2020 |
| Rep. Haaland, Debra A. [D-NM-1] | D · NM | | Apr 17, 2020 |
| Rep. Hastings, Alcee L. [D-FL-20] | D · FL | | Apr 17, 2020 |
| Rep. Jackson Lee, Sheila [D-TX-18] | D · TX | | Apr 17, 2020 |
| Rep. Johnson, Henry C. "Hank," Jr. [D-GA-4] | D · GA | | Apr 17, 2020 |
| Rep. Kennedy, Joseph P., III [D-MA-4] | D · MA | | Apr 17, 2020 |
| Rep. Lee, Barbara [D-CA-13] | D · CA | | Apr 17, 2020 |
| Rep. Lewis, John [D-GA-5] | D · GA | | Apr 17, 2020 |
| Rep. Lofgren, Zoe [D-CA-19] | D · CA | | Apr 17, 2020 |
| Rep. McGovern, James P. [D-MA-2] | D · MA | | Apr 17, 2020 |
| Rep. Moore, Gwen [D-WI-4] | D · WI | | Apr 17, 2020 |
| Rep. Nadler, Jerrold [D-NY-10] | D · NY | | Apr 17, 2020 |
| Rep. Omar, Ilhan [D-MN-5] | D · MN | | Apr 17, 2020 |
| Rep. Pocan, Mark [D-WI-2] | D · WI | | Apr 17, 2020 |
| Rep. Pressley, Ayanna [D-MA-7] | D · MA | | Apr 17, 2020 |
| Rep. Quigley, Mike [D-IL-5] | D · IL | | Apr 17, 2020 |
| Rep. Raskin, Jamie [D-MD-8] | D · MD | | Apr 17, 2020 |
| Rep. Rush, Bobby L. [D-IL-1] | D · IL | | Apr 17, 2020 |
| Rep. Schakowsky, Janice D. [D-IL-9] | D · IL | | Apr 17, 2020 |
| Rep. Smith, Adam [D-WA-9] | D · WA | | Apr 17, 2020 |
| Rep. Tlaib, Rashida [D-MI-13] | D · MI | | Apr 17, 2020 |
| Rep. Velazquez, Nydia M. [D-NY-7] | D · NY | | Apr 17, 2020 |
| Rep. Welch, Peter [D-VT-At Large] | D · VT | | Apr 17, 2020 |
| Rep. Barragan, Nanette Diaz [D-CA-44] | D · CA | | May 8, 2020 |
| Rep. Brownley, Julia [D-CA-26] | D · CA | | May 8, 2020 |
| Rep. Clarke, Yvette D. [D-NY-9] | D · NY | | May 8, 2020 |
| Rep. Lowenthal, Alan S. [D-CA-47] | D · CA | | May 8, 2020 |
| Rep. Ocasio-Cortez, Alexandria [D-NY-14] | D · NY | | May 8, 2020 |
| Rep. Vargas, Juan [D-CA-51] | D · CA | | May 8, 2020 |
| Rep. Pallone, Frank, Jr. [D-NJ-6] | D · NJ | | May 15, 2020 |
| Rep. Watson Coleman, Bonnie [D-NJ-12] | D · NJ | | May 15, 2020 |
| Rep. DeGette, Diana [D-CO-1] | D · CO | | May 28, 2020 |
| Rep. Maloney, Carolyn B. [D-NY-12] | D · NY | | May 28, 2020 |
| Rep. Meng, Grace [D-NY-6] | D · NY | | Jul 6, 2020 |
| Rep. Carson, Andre [D-IN-7] | D · IN | | Jul 29, 2020 |

| Cosponsor | Party / State | Role | Date Joined |
|----------------------------------|---------------|------|--------------|
| Rep. Correa, J. Luis [D-CA-46] | D · CA | | Aug 11, 2020 |
| Rep. Takano, Mark [D-CA-41] | D · CA | | Aug 14, 2020 |
| Rep. Shalala, Donna E. [D-FL-27] | D · FL | | Aug 25, 2020 |

Committee Activity

| Committee | Chamber | Activity | Date |
|---------------------|---------|-------------|--------------|
| Judiciary Committee | House | Referred To | Apr 17, 2020 |

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Immigration

Related Bills

| Bill | Relationship | Last Action |
|------------|----------------|--|
| 116 S 3645 | Identical bill | May 7, 2020: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. |

Summary (as of Apr 17, 2020)

Federal Immigrant Release for Safety and security Together Act or the FIRST Act

This bill imposes requirements during a communicable disease-related national emergency, such as requiring the release of certain aliens in U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) custody.

Covered aliens, specifically those who have certain health conditions, are at least 50 years old, or are 21 years of age or younger, shall be released from ICE custody without bond during such a national emergency, unless the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) determines, by clear and convincing evidence, that the alien is likely to pose a substantial and specific risk of harming another.

DHS shall review the files of any detained individual who is not a covered alien, and such an individual shall be released unless (1) alternatives to detention would not reasonably ensure the individual's appearance at removal proceedings; (2) the individual is likely to pose a substantial and specific risk of harming another; or (3) a final removal order has been entered, appeals have been exhausted, and removal of the alien is reasonably foreseeable.

ICE shall not redetain aliens released under this bill solely due to the expiration of the national emergency.

During such a national emergency, ICE shall suspend (1) requiring individuals under supervision to report in person; (2) immigration enforcement actions; and (3) warrantless enforcement in certain locations, such as an essential business during the COVID-19 (i.e., coronavirus disease 2019) public health emergency. ICE shall also provide to detained individuals (1) access to no-cost telephonic or video communication, including unmonitored communications with legal providers; and (2) hygiene products.

Actions Timeline

- **Apr 17, 2020:** Introduced in House
- **Apr 17, 2020:** Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary.