

S 1135

GRACE Act

Congress: 117 (2021–2023, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Immigration

Introduced: Apr 15, 2021

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. (Apr 15, 2021)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/senate-bill/1135>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Markey, Edward J. [D-MA]

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

Cosponsors (23 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Blumenthal, Richard [D-CT]	D · CT		Apr 15, 2021
Sen. Booker, Cory A. [D-NJ]	D · NJ		Apr 15, 2021
Sen. Brown, Sherrod [D-OH]	D · OH		Apr 15, 2021
Sen. Casey, Robert P., Jr. [D-PA]	D · PA		Apr 15, 2021
Sen. Coons, Christopher A. [D-DE]	D · DE		Apr 15, 2021
Sen. Feinstein, Dianne [D-CA]	D · CA		Apr 15, 2021
Sen. Hirono, Mazie K. [D-HI]	D · HI		Apr 15, 2021
Sen. Kaine, Tim [D-VA]	D · VA		Apr 15, 2021
Sen. Klobuchar, Amy [D-MN]	D · MN		Apr 15, 2021
Sen. Leahy, Patrick J. [D-VT]	D · VT		Apr 15, 2021
Sen. Merkley, Jeff [D-OR]	D · OR		Apr 15, 2021
Sen. Murray, Patty [D-WA]	D · WA		Apr 15, 2021
Sen. Reed, Jack [D-RI]	D · RI		Apr 15, 2021
Sen. Sanders, Bernard [I-VT]	I · VT		Apr 15, 2021
Sen. Shaheen, Jeanne [D-NH]	D · NH		Apr 15, 2021
Sen. Smith, Tina [D-MN]	D · MN		Apr 15, 2021
Sen. Warner, Mark R. [D-VA]	D · VA		Apr 15, 2021
Sen. Warren, Elizabeth [D-MA]	D · MA		Apr 15, 2021
Sen. Whitehouse, Sheldon [D-RI]	D · RI		Apr 15, 2021
Sen. Wyden, Ron [D-OR]	D · OR		Apr 15, 2021
Sen. Padilla, Alex [D-CA]	D · CA		Apr 22, 2021
Sen. Gillibrand, Kirsten E. [D-NY]	D · NY		Apr 28, 2021
Sen. Cardin, Benjamin L. [D-MD]	D · MD		Jul 14, 2021

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Judiciary Committee	Senate	Referred To	Apr 15, 2021

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Immigration

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
117 HR 9685	Related bill	Dec 22, 2022: Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, the Budget, Foreign Affairs, and Education and Labor, 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.
117 S 5353	Related bill	Dec 21, 2022: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.
117 HR 2237	Identical bill	Oct 19, 2021: Referred to the Subcommittee on Immigration and Citizenship.

Summary (as of Apr 15, 2021)

Guaranteed Refugee Admission Ceiling Enhancement Act or the GRACE Act

This bill establishes that the maximum number of refugees admitted each fiscal year shall be no less than 125,000 and that the maximum number shall be treated as the numerical goal for refugee admissions for the applicable fiscal year. The President may set a higher number if it is justified by humanitarian concerns or is otherwise in the national interest.

Currently, the number admitted each fiscal year may not exceed 50,000 unless the President determines that a higher number is justified by humanitarian concerns or is otherwise in the national interest.

The bill directs the President to take into consideration information from the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees when establishing the maximum admission number and making certain other related decisions. The President shall report to Congress quarterly on (1) the number of refugees admitted during the preceding quarter, (2) the number of aliens who were security-cleared during the preceding quarter, (3) a plan to reach the numerical goal for admitted refugees for that fiscal year, and (4) other related information.

Actions Timeline

- **Apr 15, 2021:** Introduced in Senate
- **Apr 15, 2021:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.