

## S 2477

### FAMILIES Act

**Congress:** 117 (2021–2023, Ended)

**Chamber:** Senate

**Policy Area:** Crime and Law Enforcement

**Introduced:** Jul 27, 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. (Jul 27, 2021)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/senate-bill/2477>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Sen. Wyden, Ron [D-OR]

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

### Cosponsors (9 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Booker, Cory A. [D-NJ]	D · NJ		Jul 27, 2021
Sen. Durbin, Richard J. [D-IL]	D · IL		Jul 27, 2021
Sen. Hirono, Mazie K. [D-HI]	D · HI		Jul 27, 2021
Sen. Markey, Edward J. [D-MA]	D · MA		Jul 27, 2021
Sen. Merkley, Jeff [D-OR]	D · OR		Jul 27, 2021
Sen. Sanders, Bernard [I-VT]	I · VT		Jul 27, 2021
Sen. Warnock, Raphael G. [D-GA]	D · GA		Jul 27, 2021
Sen. Brown, Sherrod [D-OH]	D · OH		Aug 2, 2021
Sen. Blumenthal, Richard [D-CT]	D · CT		Sep 20, 2021

### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Judiciary Committee	Senate	Referred To	Jul 27, 2021

### Subjects & Policy Tags

#### Policy Area:

Crime and Law Enforcement

### Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
117 HR 4709	Identical bill	Nov 1, 2022: Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security.

## **Finding Alternatives to Mass Incarceration: Lives Improved by Ending Separation Act of 2021 or the FAMILIES Act**

This bill establishes a federal statutory framework to divert certain defendants who are parents or caregivers away from prison and probation and into a comprehensive support services program.

At the federal level, the bill establishes and provides funds for the comprehensive support services program, or FAMILIES Program. The bill authorizes federal courts to sentence a parent or caregiver to participation in the FAMILIES Program as a condition of supervised release or instead of probation or prison.

At the state level, the bill funds grants for states to replicate successful state parenting sentencing alternatives programs that have the potential to keep parents out of prison.

The bill also provides funds for a study on the effects of incarceration on children of incarcerated parents and for training district court judges to carry out the FAMILIES Program.

### **Actions Timeline**

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- **Jul 27, 2021:** Introduced in Senate
- **Jul 27, 2021:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.