

S 2954

Fair Adjudications for Immigrants Act

Congress: 117 (2021–2023, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Immigration

Introduced: Oct 7, 2021

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. (Sponsor introductory remarks on measure:

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. (Sponsor introductory remarks on measure: CR S7001) (Oct 7, 2021)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/senate-bill/2954>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Padilla, Alex [D-CA]

Party: Democratic • State: CA • Chamber: Senate

Cosponsors (9 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Baldwin, Tammy [D-WI]	D · WI		Oct 7, 2021
Sen. Blumenthal, Richard [D-CT]	D · CT		Oct 7, 2021
Sen. Booker, Cory A. [D-NJ]	D · NJ		Oct 7, 2021
Sen. Feinstein, Dianne [D-CA]	D · CA		Oct 7, 2021
Sen. Hirono, Mazie K. [D-HI]	D · HI		Oct 7, 2021
Sen. Markey, Edward J. [D-MA]	D · MA		Oct 7, 2021
Sen. Sanders, Bernard [I-VT]	I · VT		Oct 7, 2021
Sen. Warren, Elizabeth [D-MA]	D · MA		Oct 7, 2021
Sen. Whitehouse, Sheldon [D-RI]	D · RI		Oct 7, 2021

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Judiciary Committee	Senate	Referred To	Oct 7, 2021

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Immigration

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
117 HR 5517	Identical bill	Nov 1, 2022: Referred to the Subcommittee on Immigration and Citizenship.
117 HR 1909	Related bill	May 18, 2021: Referred to the Subcommittee on Immigration and Citizenship.
117 S 747	Related bill	May 12, 2021: Committee on the Judiciary Subcommittee on Immigration, Citizenship, and Border Safety. Hearings held.
117 HR 1177	Related bill	Apr 28, 2021: Referred to the Subcommittee on Immigration and Citizenship.
117 S 348	Related bill	Feb 22, 2021: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Summary (as of Oct 7, 2021)

Fair Adjudications for Immigrants Act

This bill narrows the scope of certain crime-based grounds for barring or removing an alien from the United States. (Generally, a conviction for certain crimes, such as a crime that carries a term of incarceration of a certain length, may constitute grounds for denying an individual certain immigration benefits.)

The bill redefines the term *conviction* to exclude convictions that have been dismissed, expunged, deferred, annulled, invalidated, withheld, vacated, or pardoned. The term must also exclude adjudications where a court issued a recommendation against removal, an order of probation without entry of judgment, or a similar disposition.

In addition, any reference to a term of imprisonment or sentence must, unless otherwise provided (1) only consider the period of incarceration ordered by a court, and (2) exclude any suspended portion of a sentence. Currently, for immigration purposes, a term of incarceration includes any part of the sentence that was suspended.

These provisions pertaining to the definition of *conviction* and terms of imprisonment shall apply to convictions and judgments entered either before or after this bill's enactment.

Furthermore, certain crime-based grounds for barring or removing an alien shall not apply if the sentencing court issues a recommendation that the alien not be removed on the basis of the conviction.

Actions Timeline

- **Oct 7, 2021:** Introduced in Senate
- **Oct 7, 2021:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. (Sponsor introductory remarks on measure: CR S7001)