

HR 4137

Veterans Visa and Protection Act of 2021

Congress: 117 (2021–2023, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Immigration

Introduced: Jun 24, 2021

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

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Immigration and Citizenship. (Nov 1, 2022)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/4137>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Grijalva, Raúl M. [D-AZ-3]

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

Cosponsors (38 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Del. Norton, Eleanor Holmes [D-DC-At Large]	D · DC		Jun 24, 2021
Del. San Nicolas, Michael F. Q. [D-GU-At Large]	D · GU		Jun 24, 2021
Rep. Carson, Andre [D-IN-7]	D · IN		Jun 24, 2021
Rep. Garcia, Jesus G. "Chuy" [D-IL-4]	D · IL		Jun 24, 2021
Rep. Hayes, Jahana [D-CT-5]	D · CT		Jun 24, 2021
Rep. Jackson Lee, Sheila [D-TX-18]	D · TX		Jun 24, 2021
Rep. Kaptur, Marcy [D-OH-9]	D · OH		Jun 24, 2021
Rep. Kirkpatrick, Ann [D-AZ-2]	D · AZ		Jun 24, 2021
Rep. Lee, Barbara [D-CA-13]	D · CA		Jun 24, 2021
Rep. McGovern, James P. [D-MA-2]	D · MA		Jun 24, 2021
Rep. Moulton, Seth [D-MA-6]	D · MA		Jun 24, 2021
Rep. Newman, Marie [D-IL-3]	D · IL		Jun 24, 2021
Rep. Rush, Bobby L. [D-IL-1]	D · IL		Jun 24, 2021
Rep. Swalwell, Eric [D-CA-15]	D · CA		Jun 24, 2021
Rep. Takano, Mark [D-CA-41]	D · CA		Jun 24, 2021
Rep. Vargas, Juan [D-CA-51]	D · CA		Jun 24, 2021
Rep. Moore, Gwen [D-WI-4]	D · WI		Nov 23, 2021
Rep. Titus, Dina [D-NV-1]	D · NV		Nov 23, 2021
Rep. DeSaulnier, Mark [D-CA-11]	D · CA		Dec 9, 2021
Rep. Gallego, Ruben [D-AZ-7]	D · AZ		Dec 9, 2021
Rep. Gomez, Jimmy [D-CA-34]	D · CA		Dec 9, 2021
Rep. Jones, Mondaire [D-NY-17]	D · NY		Dec 9, 2021
Rep. Schakowsky, Janice D. [D-IL-9]	D · IL		Dec 9, 2021
Rep. Soto, Darren [D-FL-9]	D · FL		Dec 9, 2021
Rep. Blumenauer, Earl [D-OR-3]	D · OR		Jan 19, 2022
Rep. Espaillat, Adriano [D-NY-13]	D · NY		Jan 19, 2022
Rep. Napolitano, Grace F. [D-CA-32]	D · CA		Jan 19, 2022
Rep. Neguse, Joe [D-CO-2]	D · CO		Feb 9, 2022
Rep. Ocasio-Cortez, Alexandria [D-NY-14]	D · NY		Feb 9, 2022
Rep. Aguilar, Pete [D-CA-31]	D · CA		Mar 3, 2022
Rep. Cárdenas, Tony [D-CA-29]	D · CA		Mar 3, 2022
Rep. Foster, Bill [D-IL-11]	D · IL		Mar 3, 2022
Rep. Kahele, Kaiali'i [D-HI-2]	D · HI		Mar 3, 2022
Rep. Barragan, Nanette Diaz [D-CA-44]	D · CA		Aug 9, 2022
Rep. Cherfilus-McCormick, Sheila [D-FL-20]	D · FL		Aug 9, 2022
Rep. Maloney, Carolyn B. [D-NY-12]	D · NY		Aug 9, 2022
Rep. Strickland, Marilyn [D-WA-10]	D · WA		Aug 9, 2022
Rep. Keating, William R. [D-MA-9]	D · MA		Dec 7, 2022

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Armed Services Committee	House	Referred To	Jun 24, 2021
Judiciary Committee	House	Referred to	Nov 1, 2022
Veterans' Affairs Committee	House	Referred to	Sep 7, 2021

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Immigration

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
117 S 2265	Related bill	Jun 24, 2021: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Summary (as of Jun 24, 2021)

Veterans Visa and Protection Act of 2021

This bill provides permanent resident status and citizenship eligibility to certain noncitizen veterans and addresses related issues.

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) must establish a program that allows (1) eligible noncitizen veterans outside of the United States to be admitted as permanent residents, and (2) eligible noncitizen veterans in the United States to obtain permanent resident status.

Generally, an eligible noncitizen veteran under this bill is one who was not removed from the United States for certain crimes related to violence or national security. DHS may waive these eligibility requirements for humanitarian, family unity, public interest, or exceptional military service reasons.

A noncitizen veteran who obtains permanent resident status under this bill shall be eligible for (1) naturalization through service in the Armed Forces, and (2) military and veterans benefits as if they had not been removed (or ordered removed) from the United States.

For a noncitizen veteran in removal proceedings or subject to a final removal order, the Department of Justice (DOJ) must determine whether the veteran is eligible for permanent resident status under this bill. If the veteran is eligible, DOJ must adjust the veteran's status.

The bill also protects noncitizen veterans or service members from being removed from the United States unless the veteran has been convicted of a crime of violence.

Actions Timeline

- **Nov 1, 2022:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Immigration and Citizenship.
- **Sep 7, 2021:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs.
- **Jun 24, 2021:** Introduced in House
- **Jun 24, 2021:** Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committees on Armed Services, and Veterans' Affairs, 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.