

## HR 4545

### Freedom and Right to Emancipate from Exploitation (FREE) Act

**Congress:** 117 (2021–2023, Ended)

**Chamber:** House

**Policy Area:** Law

**Introduced:** Jul 20, 2021

**Current Status:** Referred to the Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights, and Civil Liberties.

**Latest Action:** Referred to the Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights, and Civil Liberties. (Nov 1, 2022)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/4545>

## Sponsor

**Name:** Rep. Crist, Charlie [D-FL-13]

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

## Cosponsors (3 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Mace, Nancy [R-SC-1]	R · SC		Jul 20, 2021
Rep. Soto, Darren [D-FL-9]	D · FL		Oct 12, 2021
Rep. Swalwell, Eric [D-CA-15]	D · CA		Nov 30, 2021

## Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Judiciary Committee	House	Referred to	Nov 1, 2022

## Subjects & Policy Tags

### Policy Area:

Law

## Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

## **Freedom and Right to Emancipate from Exploitation (FREE) Act**

This bill establishes rights for individuals who are subject to legal guardianship or conservatorship.

Specifically, these individuals have the right to

- petition the court to replace their private legal guardian or conservator with a state guardian or other designated individual; and
- communicate with a caseworker employed by the state, without the interference or objection of the individual's legal guardian or conservator.

Furthermore, the bill creates a private right of action for individuals whose rights have been violated.

The bill also authorizes the Department of Health and Human Services to provide grants to states to hire state-employed caseworkers, legal guardians, and conservators for legally incompetent adults.

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## **Actions Timeline**

- **Nov 1, 2022:** Referred to the Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights, and Civil Liberties.
- **Jul 20, 2021:** Introduced in House
- **Jul 20, 2021:** Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary.