

## 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.

## **Actions Timeline**

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- **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.

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