

## HR 4709

### FAMILIES Act

**Congress:** 117 (2021–2023, Ended)

**Chamber:** House

**Policy Area:** Crime and Law Enforcement

**Introduced:** Jul 27, 2021

**Current Status:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security.

**Latest Action:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security. (Nov 1, 2022)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/4709>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Rep. Jayapal, Pramila [D-WA-7]

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

### Cosponsors (9 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Del. Norton, Eleanor Holmes [D-DC-At Large]	D · DC		Jul 27, 2021
Rep. Blumenauer, Earl [D-OR-3]	D · OR		Jul 27, 2021
Rep. Bonamici, Suzanne [D-OR-1]	D · OR		Jul 27, 2021
Rep. Cárdenas, Tony [D-CA-29]	D · CA		Jul 27, 2021
Rep. Hayes, Jahana [D-CT-5]	D · CT		Jul 27, 2021
Rep. Moore, Gwen [D-WI-4]	D · WI		Jul 27, 2021
Rep. Scanlon, Mary Gay [D-PA-5]	D · PA		Jul 27, 2021
Rep. Smith, Adam [D-WA-9]	D · WA		Jul 27, 2021
Rep. Trone, David J. [D-MD-6]	D · MD		Jul 27, 2021

### Committee Activity

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

### Subjects & Policy Tags

#### Policy Area:

Crime and Law Enforcement

### Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
117 S 2477	Identical bill	Jul 27, 2021: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

## **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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- **Nov 1, 2022:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security.
- **Jul 27, 2021:** Introduced in House
- **Jul 27, 2021:** Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary.