

HR 6250

Protecting America's Meatpacking Workers Act of 2021

Congress: 117 (2021–2023, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Labor and Employment

Introduced: Dec 13, 2021

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Livestock and Foreign Agriculture.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Livestock and Foreign Agriculture. (Jan 4, 2022)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/6250>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Khanna, Ro [D-CA-17]

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

Cosponsors (4 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Blumenauer, Earl [D-OR-3]	D · OR		Dec 13, 2021
Del. Norton, Eleanor Holmes [D-DC-At Large]	D · DC		Jan 3, 2022
Rep. Hayes, Jahana [D-CT-5]	D · CT		Jan 3, 2022
Rep. Cárdenas, Tony [D-CA-29]	D · CA		Apr 27, 2022

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Agriculture Committee	House	Referred to	Jan 4, 2022
Committee on House Administration	House	Referred To	Dec 13, 2021
Education and Workforce Committee	House	Referred To	Dec 13, 2021
Judiciary Committee	House	Referred To	Dec 13, 2021
Oversight and Government Reform Committee	House	Referred To	Dec 13, 2021

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Labor and Employment

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
117 S 3285	Related bill	Nov 30, 2021: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Protecting America's Meatpacking Workers Act of 2021

This bill addresses workplace conditions and safety with a particular focus on meat and poultry processing establishments and makes other changes to agricultural programs and activities.

Generally, the bill provides funding through FY2027 for hiring additional Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) inspectors and related activities. It also restricts an employer's use of certain attendance policies under which a worker is assessed points for absences with progressive discipline imposed as points accumulate.

Additionally, the bill expands protections for workers who exercise their rights under occupational safety and health laws and regulations. This includes specific protections and procedures for workers of meat and poultry processing establishments.

The bill expands workplace safety and health requirements that apply to meat and poultry processing establishments, including by prohibiting waivers (subject to limited exceptions) related to line speeds and inspections. Additionally, OSHA must issue standards for these establishments that address, for example, ergonomic program management and preventing occupational exposure to COVID-19. OSHA must also (1) establish, within seven days, a process for establishments to report COVID-19 information; and (2) publish certain regulations regarding a workers' representative accompanying an OSHA inspector during inspections of an establishment.

The bill provides funding through FY2031 for, and imposes additional conditions on recipients of, grants to improve meat and poultry processing facilities. Further, the bill increases funding for a program that supports regional and local food systems. It also requires country-of-origin labeling of beef, pork, and dairy products.

Actions Timeline

- **Jan 4, 2022:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Livestock and Foreign Agriculture.
- **Dec 13, 2021:** Introduced in House
- **Dec 13, 2021:** Referred to the Committee on Agriculture, and in addition to the Committees on Education and Labor, Oversight and Reform, House Administration, and the Judiciary, 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.