

HR 7946

Veteran Service Recognition Act of 2022

Congress: 117 (2021–2023, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Immigration

Introduced: Jun 3, 2022

Current Status: Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Latest Action: Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. (Dec 7, 2022)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/7946>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Takano, Mark [D-CA-41]

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

Cosponsors (36 total)

| Cosponsor | Party / State | Role | Date Joined |
|--|----------------------|-------------|--------------------|
| Rep. Correa, J. Luis [D-CA-46] | D · CA | | Jun 3, 2022 |
| Rep. Lofgren, Zoe [D-CA-19] | D · CA | | Jun 3, 2022 |
| Rep. Nadler, Jerrold [D-NY-10] | D · NY | | Jun 3, 2022 |
| Rep. Ruiz, Raul [D-CA-36] | D · CA | | Jun 3, 2022 |
| Rep. Vargas, Juan [D-CA-51] | D · CA | | Jun 3, 2022 |
| Del. Sablan, Gregorio Kilili Camacho [D-MP-At Large] | D · MP | | Jun 7, 2022 |
| Rep. Brown, Anthony G. [D-MD-4] | D · MD | | Jun 8, 2022 |
| Del. Norton, Eleanor Holmes [D-DC-At Large] | D · DC | | Jun 14, 2022 |
| Rep. Espaillat, Adriano [D-NY-13] | D · NY | | Jun 14, 2022 |
| Rep. Lowenthal, Alan S. [D-CA-47] | D · CA | | Jun 14, 2022 |
| Rep. McGovern, James P. [D-MA-2] | D · MA | | Jun 14, 2022 |
| Rep. Rush, Bobby L. [D-IL-1] | D · IL | | Jun 14, 2022 |
| Rep. Thompson, Mike [D-CA-5] | D · CA | | Jun 14, 2022 |
| Rep. Barragan, Nanette Diaz [D-CA-44] | D · CA | | Jun 22, 2022 |
| Rep. Gallego, Ruben [D-AZ-7] | D · AZ | | Jun 22, 2022 |
| Rep. Titus, Dina [D-NV-1] | D · NV | | Jun 22, 2022 |
| Rep. Malinowski, Tom [D-NJ-7] | D · NJ | | Jul 1, 2022 |
| Rep. Carbajal, Salud O. [D-CA-24] | D · CA | | Jul 12, 2022 |
| Rep. DeSaulnier, Mark [D-CA-11] | D · CA | | Jul 12, 2022 |
| Rep. Panetta, Jimmy [D-CA-20] | D · CA | | Jul 12, 2022 |
| Rep. Peters, Scott H. [D-CA-52] | D · CA | | Jul 12, 2022 |
| Rep. Soto, Darren [D-FL-9] | D · FL | | Jul 13, 2022 |
| Rep. Carson, Andre [D-IN-7] | D · IN | | Jul 20, 2022 |
| Rep. Garcia, Sylvia R. [D-TX-29] | D · TX | | Jul 20, 2022 |
| Rep. Maloney, Carolyn B. [D-NY-12] | D · NY | | Jul 21, 2022 |
| Rep. Jones, Mondaire [D-NY-17] | D · NY | | Jul 26, 2022 |
| Rep. Scanlon, Mary Gay [D-PA-5] | D · PA | | Jul 26, 2022 |
| Rep. Hayes, Jahana [D-CT-5] | D · CT | | Jul 27, 2022 |
| Rep. Jayapal, Pramila [D-WA-7] | D · WA | | Aug 9, 2022 |
| Rep. Stansbury, Melanie Ann [D-NM-1] | D · NM | | Aug 9, 2022 |
| Rep. Keating, William R. [D-MA-9] | D · MA | | Sep 14, 2022 |
| Rep. Bowman, Jamaal [D-NY-16] | D · NY | | Sep 19, 2022 |
| Rep. Jackson Lee, Sheila [D-TX-18] | D · TX | | Sep 29, 2022 |
| Rep. Aguilar, Pete [D-CA-31] | D · CA | | Oct 4, 2022 |
| Rep. Lee, Barbara [D-CA-13] | D · CA | | Oct 21, 2022 |
| Rep. Costa, Jim [D-CA-16] | D · CA | | Oct 28, 2022 |

Committee Activity

| Committee | Chamber | Activity | Date |
|-----------------------------|---------|-----------------|--------------|
| Armed Services Committee | House | Discharged From | Nov 15, 2022 |
| Judiciary Committee | House | Reported By | Nov 15, 2022 |
| Judiciary Committee | Senate | Referred To | Dec 7, 2022 |
| Veterans' Affairs Committee | House | Discharged From | Nov 15, 2022 |

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Immigration

Related Bills

| Bill | Relationship | Last Action |
|---------------|----------------------|---|
| 117 HRES 1508 | Procedurally related | Dec 6, 2022: Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection. |
| 117 S 5055 | Related bill | Sep 29, 2022: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. (Sponsor introductory remarks on measure: CR S5553) |

Veteran Service Recognition Act of 2022

This bill addresses immigration-related issues pertaining to noncitizen (or non-U.S. national) military veterans, including by authorizing the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to provide lawful permanent resident status to a veteran subject to removal.

If a noncitizen veteran appears to be eligible for lawful permanent resident status under this bill, that veteran must receive a reasonable opportunity to apply for such status and may not be removed until there is a final administrative decision on the veteran's eligibility.

For the purposes of providing such status under this bill, DHS may waive any applicable grounds of inadmissibility, except for certain crime- or security-related grounds.

The bill also extends certain deadlines relating to obtaining citizenship after serving in the Armed Forces.

DHS must create a system for identifying noncitizens who are or may be veterans. Before initiating removal proceedings against a noncitizen, DHS must attempt to determine whether the noncitizen is a veteran. DHS must ensure that veteran status is considered in immigration proceedings.

The bill also requires U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) and the Department of Defense to take certain actions to facilitate opportunities for military recruits and veterans to obtain U.S. citizenship, such as by training Judge Advocate General Corps members to act as liaisons between the Armed Forces and USCIS on servicemember citizenship applications.

The bill also establishes the Military Family Immigration Advisory Committee to provide recommendations on cases involving the removal of a servicemember, veteran, or certain family members of a servicemember or veteran. Such an individual may not be removed until the committee has provided a recommendation to DHS about the individual's case, unless the individual is inadmissible due to a conviction for an aggravated felony.

The bill also waives certain grounds of inadmissibility (e.g., being unlawfully present in the United States) for certain noncitizens applying for lawful permanent resident status as an immediate relative of a U.S. citizen who has served at least two years in the Armed Forces.

Actions Timeline

- **Dec 7, 2022:** Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.
- **Dec 6, 2022:** Rules Committee Resolution H. Res. 1508 Reported to House. The resolution provides for consideration of H.R. 3648, under a structured rule and H.R. 7946, under a structured rule. The resolution waives the requirement of clause 6(a) of rule XIII for a two-thirds vote to consider a report from the Committee on Rules on the same day it is presented to the House with respect to any resolution reported through the remainder of the 117th Congress.
- **Dec 6, 2022:** Rule H. Res. 1508 passed House.
- **Dec 6, 2022:** Considered under the provisions of rule H. Res. 1508. (consideration: CR H8763-8773; text: CR H8763-8765)
- **Dec 6, 2022:** The resolution provides consideration of H.R. 3648, under a structured rule and H.R. 7946, under a structured rule. The resolution waives the requirement of clause 6(a) of rule XIII for a two-thirds vote to consider a report from the Committee on Rules on the same day it is presented to the House with respect to any resolution reported through the remainder of the 117th Congress.
- **Dec 6, 2022:** DEBATE - The House proceeded with one hour of debate on H.R. 7946.
- **Dec 6, 2022:** DEBATE - Pursuant to the provisions of H. Res. 1508, the House proceeded with 10 minutes of debate on the Vicente Gonzalez amendment no. 1.
- **Dec 6, 2022:** Passed/agreed to in House: On passage Passed by the Yeas and Nays: 220 - 208 (Roll no. 503).
- **Dec 6, 2022:** On passage Passed by the Yeas and Nays: 220 - 208 (Roll no. 503).
- **Dec 6, 2022:** Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
- **Nov 15, 2022:** Reported (Amended) by the Committee on Judiciary. H. Rept. 117-558, Part I.
- **Nov 15, 2022:** Committee on Veterans' Affairs discharged.
- **Nov 15, 2022:** Committee on Armed Services discharged.
- **Nov 15, 2022:** Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 400.
- **Jul 27, 2022:** Committee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held.
- **Jul 27, 2022:** Ordered to be Reported (Amended) by the Yeas and Nays: 23 - 16.
- **Jun 3, 2022:** Introduced in House
- **Jun 3, 2022:** Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committees on Veterans' Affairs, and Armed Services, 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.

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