

S 1288

Child Labor Exploitation Accountability Act

Congress: 118 (2023–2025, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Agriculture and Food

Introduced: Apr 25, 2023

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions. (Apr 25, 2023)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/senate-bill/1288>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Booker, Cory A. [D-NJ]

Party: Democratic • **State:** NJ • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (5 total)

| Cosponsor | Party / State | Role | Date Joined |
|---------------------------------|---------------|------|--------------|
| Sen. Welch, Peter [D-VT] | D · VT | | Apr 25, 2023 |
| Sen. Menendez, Robert [D-NJ] | D · NJ | | May 31, 2023 |
| Sen. Blumenthal, Richard [D-CT] | D · CT | | Jul 11, 2023 |
| Sen. Warren, Elizabeth [D-MA] | D · MA | | Oct 4, 2023 |
| Sen. Lujan, Ben Ray [D-NM] | D · NM | | Oct 17, 2023 |

Committee Activity

| Committee | Chamber | Activity | Date |
|--|---------|-------------|--------------|
| Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee | Senate | Referred To | Apr 25, 2023 |

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Agriculture and Food

Related Bills

| Bill | Relationship | Last Action |
|-------------|----------------|---|
| 118 HR 4978 | Related bill | Sep 26, 2023: Referred to the Subcommittee on Livestock, Dairy, and Poultry. |
| 118 S 2601 | Related bill | Jul 27, 2023: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions. |
| 118 HR 2822 | Identical bill | Apr 25, 2023: Referred to the House Committee on Agriculture. |

Child Labor Exploitation Accountability Act

This bill requires the Department of Agriculture (USDA) to ensure that any entity entering into a contract with USDA discloses violations of specific labor laws to the Department of Labor (Labor). It also restricts USDA contracts with entities that disclose certain violations.

Specifically, beginning two years after the bill's enactment, any entity that enters into a contract with USDA must annually disclose to Labor whether any administrative merits determination, arbitral award or decision, or civil judgment has been issued against the entity (or a subcontractor of the entity) within the preceding three years for violations of specific laws, executive orders, and regulations (e.g., the National Labor Relations Act, the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993, and the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967). An entity that fails to disclose the required information is subject to criminal penalties.

Labor must provide an entity an opportunity to report any steps taken to correct violations of, or improve compliance with, the labor laws. Labor may also negotiate corrective measures that the entity may take.

Labor must annually submit to USDA a list of entities that (1) have serious, repeated, or pervasive labor law violations; or (2) have failed to complete any negotiated corrective measure. Further, USDA is prohibited from soliciting a contract from, and conducting meat and poultry inspections for, any entity on Labor's list for five years.

USDA must report to Congress annually on the number of entities (1) on Labor's list, and (2) that have agreed to take corrective measures.

Actions Timeline

- **Apr 25, 2023:** Introduced in Senate
- **Apr 25, 2023:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.