

## HR 1698

American Families United Act

**Congress:** 118 (2023–2025, Ended)

**Chamber:** House

**Policy Area:** Immigration

**Introduced:** Mar 22, 2023

**Current Status:** Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary.

**Latest Action:** Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary. (Mar 22, 2023)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-bill/1698>

### Sponsor

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**Name:** Rep. Escobar, Veronica [D-TX-16]

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

**Cosponsors** (49 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Del. Norton, Eleanor Holmes [D-DC-At Large]	D · DC		Mar 22, 2023
Rep. Allred, Colin Z. [D-TX-32]	D · TX		Mar 22, 2023
Rep. Barragan, Nanette Diaz [D-CA-44]	D · CA		Mar 22, 2023
Rep. Correa, J. Luis [D-CA-46]	D · CA		Mar 22, 2023
Rep. Doggett, Lloyd [D-TX-37]	D · TX		Mar 22, 2023
Rep. Jacobs, Sara [D-CA-51]	D · CA		Mar 22, 2023
Rep. Jayapal, Pramila [D-WA-7]	D · WA		Mar 22, 2023
Rep. Neguse, Joe [D-CO-2]	D · CO		Mar 22, 2023
Rep. Omar, Ilhan [D-MN-5]	D · MN		Mar 22, 2023
Rep. Raskin, Jamie [D-MD-8]	D · MD		Mar 22, 2023
Rep. Ross, Deborah K. [D-NC-2]	D · NC		Mar 22, 2023
Rep. Salazar, Maria Elvira [R-FL-27]	R · FL		Mar 22, 2023
Rep. Scanlon, Mary Gay [D-PA-5]	D · PA		Mar 22, 2023
Rep. Tlaib, Rashida [D-MI-12]	D · MI		Mar 22, 2023
Rep. Velazquez, Nydia M. [D-NY-7]	D · NY		Mar 22, 2023
Rep. Williams, Nikema [D-GA-5]	D · GA		Mar 22, 2023
Rep. Garcia, Robert [D-CA-42]	D · CA		Mar 29, 2023
Rep. Levin, Mike [D-CA-49]	D · CA		Mar 29, 2023
Rep. McGovern, James P. [D-MA-2]	D · MA		Mar 29, 2023
Rep. Sánchez, Linda T. [D-CA-38]	D · CA		Mar 29, 2023
Rep. Garcia, Jesus G. "Chuy" [D-IL-4]	D · IL		Jun 7, 2023
Rep. Johnson, Henry C. "Hank," Jr. [D-GA-4]	D · GA		Jun 7, 2023
Rep. Larsen, Rick [D-WA-2]	D · WA		Jun 7, 2023
Rep. Ramirez, Delia C. [D-IL-3]	D · IL		Jun 7, 2023
Rep. Ruppersberger, C. A. Dutch [D-MD-2]	D · MD		Jun 7, 2023
Rep. Schiff, Adam B. [D-CA-30]	D · CA		Jun 7, 2023
Rep. Soto, Darren [D-FL-9]	D · FL		Jun 7, 2023
Rep. Vasquez, Gabe [D-NM-2]	D · NM		Jun 7, 2023
Rep. Fletcher, Lizzie [D-TX-7]	D · TX		Jul 25, 2023
Rep. Slotkin, Elissa [D-MI-7]	D · MI		Jul 25, 2023
Rep. Goldman, Daniel S. [D-NY-10]	D · NY		Aug 22, 2023
Rep. Lofgren, Zoe [D-CA-18]	D · CA		Sep 21, 2023
Rep. Pettersen, Brittany [D-CO-7]	D · CO		Oct 17, 2023
Rep. Dean, Madeleine [D-PA-4]	D · PA		Oct 24, 2023
Rep. Valadao, David G. [R-CA-22]	R · CA		Oct 24, 2023
Rep. Tonko, Paul [D-NY-20]	D · NY		Nov 6, 2023
Rep. Kim, Andy [D-NJ-3]	D · NJ		Nov 17, 2023
Rep. Lee, Barbara [D-CA-12]	D · CA		Nov 17, 2023
Rep. Leger Fernandez, Teresa [D-NM-3]	D · NM		Nov 17, 2023
Rep. McCollum, Betty [D-MN-4]	D · MN		Nov 17, 2023
Rep. Casar, Greg [D-TX-35]	D · TX		Dec 12, 2023

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Porter, Katie [D-CA-47]	D · CA		Feb 9, 2024
Rep. Menendez, Robert [D-NJ-8]	D · NJ		Apr 12, 2024
Rep. Carbajal, Salud O. [D-CA-24]	D · CA		Jun 18, 2024
Rep. Espaillat, Adriano [D-NY-13]	D · NY		Jun 18, 2024
Rep. Salinas, Andrea [D-OR-6]	D · OR		Jun 18, 2024
Rep. Thanedar, Shri [D-MI-13]	D · MI		Jun 18, 2024
Rep. Castor, Kathy [D-FL-14]	D · FL		Jul 11, 2024
Rep. DelBene, Suzan K. [D-WA-1]	D · WA		Jul 11, 2024

### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Judiciary Committee	House	Referred To	Mar 22, 2023

### Subjects & Policy Tags

#### Policy Area:

Immigration

### Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

### Summary (as of Mar 22, 2023)

#### American Families United Act

This bill authorizes the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) or the Department of Justice (DOJ) to exercise discretion in certain immigration cases.

Under this bill, DOJ or DHS may, on a case-by-case basis, exercise discretion by declining to remove a non-U.S. national (*alien* under federal law) or bar an alien from entering the United States to prevent hardship for the alien's U.S. citizen spouse, parent, or child. This discretion may also be exercised if the alien is the spouse or child of a deceased U.S. citizen.

For the purposes of this bill, it shall be presumed that family separation constitutes hardship.

However, DOJ or DHS may not exercise this discretion if the alien is removable or inadmissible due to certain grounds, including specified crime- and security-related grounds.

This exercise of discretion may be applied to an alien who was ordered removed or denied entry prior to this bill's enactment if the alien files a motion to reopen or reconsider within two years of this bill's enactment.

### Actions Timeline

- Mar 22, 2023:** Introduced in House
- Mar 22, 2023:** Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary.