

S 1786

Afghan Allies Protection Act of 2023

Congress: 118 (2023–2025, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Immigration

Introduced: Jun 1, 2023

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

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. (Jun 1, 2023)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/senate-bill/1786>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Shaheen, Jeanne [D-NH]

Party: Democratic • State: NH • Chamber: Senate

Cosponsors (1 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Wicker, Roger F. [R-MS]	R · MS		Jun 1, 2023

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Judiciary Committee	Senate	Referred To	Jun 1, 2023

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Immigration

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
118 HR 3808	Identical bill	Jun 5, 2023: Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary.

## **Afghan Allies Protection Act of 2023**

This bill makes an additional 20,000 special immigrant visas available to eligible citizens or nationals of Afghanistan who assisted U.S. efforts there and addresses related issues. (Generally, these visas are available to individuals who were employed in Afghanistan by the U.S. government or the International Security Assistance Force for at least one year.)

Specifically, the bill expands the window of eligibility for meeting certain requirements for such visas. Currently, an applicant must complete the employment requirements by the end of 2024, and the bill extends this window to the end of 2029. Similarly, the bill extends the deadline to apply for a visa with the Chief of Mission from the end of 2024 to the end of 2029.

The bill also makes these visas available to otherwise eligible individuals who could not complete the employment requirements due to an injury sustained during the employment.

The bill also addresses the processing of these visas, including by (1) requiring each relevant federal agency to designate a senior official to oversee the integrity and efficiency of visa processing; (2) authorizing the use of virtual video meetings to sign applications and to give oaths; (3) requiring the Department of State to reimburse applicants for the cost of medical examinations required by immigration law, if the applicant petitions for such reimbursement; and (4) requiring the State Department to develop a strategy to address pending applications.

## **Actions Timeline**

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- **Jun 1, 2023:** Introduced in Senate
- **Jun 1, 2023:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.