

S 2278

Border Enforcement, Security, and Trade (BEST) Facilitation Act of 2023

Congress: 118 (2023–2025, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Immigration

Introduced: Jul 12, 2023

Current Status: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 652.

Latest Action: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 652. (Dec 2, 2024)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/senate-bill/2278>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Lankford, James [R-OK]

Party: Republican • **State:** OK • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (3 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Kelly, Mark [D-AZ]	D · AZ		Jul 12, 2023
Sen. Cornyn, John [R-TX]	R · TX		Apr 15, 2024
Sen. Ossoff, Jon [D-GA]	D · GA		Apr 15, 2024

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee	Senate	Reported By	Dec 2, 2024

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Immigration

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
118 HR 5990	Related bill	Oct 25, 2023: Referred to the House Committee on Homeland Security.

Border Enforcement, Security, and Trade (BEST) Facilitation Act of 2023

This bill establishes positions within U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to review inspection images of vehicles and cargo entering or exiting the United States.

Specifically, the bill establishes the position of image adjudicator within the CBP Office of Field Operations. An image adjudicator must (1) review nonintrusive inspection images of vehicles and cargo entering or exiting the United States; (2) assess whether such vehicles and cargo contain contraband, illicit drugs, weapons, or persons seeking to unlawfully enter the United States; and (3) refer suspicious vehicles and cargo for further inspection by a CBP officer.

The bill also establishes the position of supervisory image adjudicator with additional responsibilities, including receiving and reporting intelligence to the National Targeting Center about techniques used by malign actors to transport contraband, illicit drugs, weapons, and persons seeking to unlawfully enter the United States.

The bill establishes annual training requirements for both image adjudicator and supervisory image adjudicator positions, including training on privacy and civil liberties and how to analyze inspection images.

Within a year of this bill's enactment, CBP must develop a workforce staffing model for these positions. The Government Accountability Office must validate the model within six months of the model's completion.

Actions Timeline

- **Dec 2, 2024:** Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs. Reported by Senator Peters with an amendment in the nature of a substitute and an amendment to the title. With written report No. 118-251.
- **Dec 2, 2024:** Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 652.
- **Apr 10, 2024:** Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs. Ordered to be reported with an amendment in the nature of a substitute favorably.
- **Jul 12, 2023:** Introduced in Senate
- **Jul 12, 2023:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.