

HR 3403

Strengthening Tribal Families Act of 2023

Congress: 118 (2023–2025, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Native Americans

Introduced: May 17, 2023

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Work and Welfare.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Work and Welfare. (Dec 17, 2024)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-bill/3403>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Bacon, Don [R-NE-2]

Party: Republican • **State:** NE • **Chamber:** House

Cosponsors (8 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Cole, Tom [R-OK-4]	R · OK		May 17, 2023
Rep. Davids, Sharice [D-KS-3]	D · KS		May 17, 2023
Rep. Kildee, Daniel T. [D-MI-8]	D · MI		May 17, 2023
Rep. LaMalfa, Doug [R-CA-1]	R · CA		May 17, 2023
Rep. Peltola, Mary Sattler [D-AK-At Large]	D · AK		May 17, 2023
Rep. Schweikert, David [R-AZ-1]	R · AZ		May 17, 2023
Rep. Schiff, Adam B. [D-CA-30]	D · CA		Oct 2, 2023
Rep. Gottheimer, Josh [D-NJ-5]	D · NJ		Dec 11, 2023

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Ways and Means Committee	House	Referred to	Dec 17, 2024

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Native Americans

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
118 HR 3461	Identical bill	Dec 17, 2024: Referred to the Subcommittee on Work and Welfare.

Strengthening Tribal Families Act of 2023

This bill establishes requirements related to state compliance with the Indian Child Welfare Act of 1978 (ICWA). The ICWA establishes minimum federal standards for the removal of Indian children from their families and the placement of these children in foster or adoptive homes.

Specifically, the bill requires a state plan for child welfare services and a state plan related to the Promoting Safe and Stable Families Program to ensure that the agency administering or supervising the plan (e.g., a child welfare agency) shall comply with all federal standards established under the ICWA.

Further, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and the Department of the Interior must, in consultation with Indian tribal organizations and states, develop a memorandum of understanding that specifies the factors for measuring compliance with the ICWA. These factors must include requirements sufficient to assess state strengths and areas for improvement in implementing the ICWA (e.g., timely tribal notice of state child custody proceedings).

Additionally, the bill directs HHS to submit biennial reports to Congress on certain reviews of child and family service programs.

Actions Timeline

- **Dec 17, 2024:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Work and Welfare.
- **May 17, 2023:** Introduced in House
- **May 17, 2023:** Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means.