

HR 3859

Animal Welfare Enforcement Improvement Act

Congress: 118 (2023–2025, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Animals

Introduced: Jun 6, 2023

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Livestock, Dairy, and Poultry.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Livestock, Dairy, and Poultry. (Jul 28, 2023)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-bill/3859>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Krishnamoorthi, Raja [D-IL-8]

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

Cosponsors (34 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Mace, Nancy [R-SC-1]	R · SC		Jun 6, 2023
Rep. Casten, Sean [D-IL-6]	D · IL		Jun 20, 2023
Rep. Connolly, Gerald E. [D-VA-11]	D · VA		Jun 20, 2023
Rep. DelBene, Suzan K. [D-WA-1]	D · WA		Jun 20, 2023
Rep. Garcia, Jesus G. "Chuy" [D-IL-4]	D · IL		Jun 20, 2023
Rep. Khanna, Ro [D-CA-17]	D · CA		Jun 20, 2023
Rep. Lynch, Stephen F. [D-MA-8]	D · MA		Jun 20, 2023
Rep. Pocan, Mark [D-WI-2]	D · WI		Jun 20, 2023
Rep. Sánchez, Linda T. [D-CA-38]	D · CA		Jun 20, 2023
Rep. Vargas, Juan [D-CA-52]	D · CA		Jun 20, 2023
Rep. Blumenauer, Earl [D-OR-3]	D · OR		Jun 22, 2023
Rep. Lieu, Ted [D-CA-36]	D · CA		Jun 22, 2023
Rep. Quigley, Mike [D-IL-5]	D · IL		Jun 22, 2023
Rep. Raskin, Jamie [D-MD-8]	D · MD		Jun 22, 2023
Rep. Scanlon, Mary Gay [D-PA-5]	D · PA		Jun 22, 2023
Rep. Bonamici, Suzanne [D-OR-1]	D · OR		Jul 11, 2023
Rep. Cárdenas, Tony [D-CA-29]	D · CA		Jul 11, 2023
Rep. Schiff, Adam B. [D-CA-30]	D · CA		Jul 11, 2023
Rep. Kilmer, Derek [D-WA-6]	D · WA		Jul 13, 2023
Rep. Takano, Mark [D-CA-39]	D · CA		Jul 13, 2023
Rep. McGovern, James P. [D-MA-2]	D · MA		Jul 17, 2023
Rep. Hayes, Jahana [D-CT-5]	D · CT		Jul 26, 2023
Rep. Fitzpatrick, Brian K. [R-PA-1]	R · PA		Sep 12, 2023
Rep. Lofgren, Zoe [D-CA-18]	D · CA		Sep 12, 2023
Rep. McCollum, Betty [D-MN-4]	D · MN		Sep 12, 2023
Rep. Cohen, Steve [D-TN-9]	D · TN		Sep 13, 2023
Rep. Davids, Sharice [D-KS-3]	D · KS		Sep 19, 2023
Rep. Trone, David J. [D-MD-6]	D · MD		Sep 20, 2023
Rep. Gottheimer, Josh [D-NJ-5]	D · NJ		Nov 13, 2023
Rep. Johnson, Henry C. "Hank," Jr. [D-GA-4]	D · GA		Nov 13, 2023
Rep. Kim, Andy [D-NJ-3]	D · NJ		Nov 13, 2023
Rep. Huffman, Jared [D-CA-2]	D · CA		Jun 25, 2024
Rep. Smith, Adam [D-WA-9]	D · WA		Aug 30, 2024
Del. Norton, Eleanor Holmes [D-DC-At Large]	D · DC		Sep 17, 2024

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Agriculture Committee	House	Referred to	Jul 28, 2023

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Animals

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Summary (as of Jun 6, 2023)

Animal Welfare Enforcement Improvement Act

This bill revises the licensing process of the Department of Agriculture (USDA) for animal dealers and exhibitors to expand USDA's oversight and enforcement of animal welfare requirements.

Dealers and exhibitors must apply to USDA for licenses or renewal licenses each year. In order to obtain the licenses or renewals, dealers and exhibitors must meet certain standards for the humane treatment of animals and pass inspections as specified by this bill. USDA may not issue or renew such licenses if the dealers or exhibitors have violated laws relating to animals or if the issuance of the licenses would facilitate the circumvention of state or local laws that prohibit the private ownership of certain animals.

Further, USDA must suspend the licenses of dealers or exhibitors whose violations present a risk to animal welfare. USDA must revoke the licenses if the violations persist or if the licensees commit multiple violations. Dealers and exhibitors with suspended or revoked licenses may not be (1) granted another license, (2) granted another license through another person or entity, or (3) employed by another licensee to work with animals during the period of the suspension or revocation.

Actions Timeline

- **Jul 28, 2023:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Livestock, Dairy, and Poultry.
- **Jun 6, 2023:** Introduced in House
- **Jun 6, 2023:** Referred to the House Committee on Agriculture.