

HR 4546

B–VERIFY Act of 2023

Congress: 118 (2023–2025, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Immigration

Introduced: Jul 11, 2023

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Border Security and Enforcement.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Border Security and Enforcement. (Jul 11, 2023)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-bill/4546>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Gooden, Lance [R-TX-5]

Party: Republican • State: TX • Chamber: House

Cosponsors (4 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Babin, Brian [R-TX-36]	R · TX		Jul 11, 2023
Rep. Donalds, Byron [R-FL-19]	R · FL		Jul 11, 2023
Rep. Ellzey, Jake [R-TX-6]	R · TX		Jul 11, 2023
Rep. Miller, Mary E. [R-IL-15]	R · IL		Jul 11, 2023

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Homeland Security Committee	House	Referred to	Jul 11, 2023
Judiciary Committee	House	Referred To	Jul 11, 2023

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Immigration

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

## Biometric Verification for Entry and Reconfirming Identity with Forensics Act of 2023 or the B-VERIFY Act of 2023

This bill addresses various immigration-related issues, including by imposing penalties on parents of unaccompanied alien children who arrive in the United States.

Under this bill, any applicant for an immigration benefit, including a U.S. national applying for a non-U.S. national (*alien* under federal law) beneficiary, must provide biometric information, including DNA.

Furthermore, before the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) may release an unaccompanied alien child to a sponsor, the potential sponsor must undergo a background check that includes certain searches, including a Federal Bureau of Investigation National Criminal History Check. (HHS currently conducts background checks of potential sponsors, but is not required to conduct all the checks required by this bill.)

HHS must report a potential sponsor to U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) if the potential sponsor (1) fails to prove a claimed familial relationship with the child, or (2) provides a false identity document.

HHS may not use government funds to provide legal counsel to detained unaccompanied alien children.

The bill also imposes penalties on the non-U.S. national parents of an unaccompanied alien child who arrives in the United States, including by deeming the parent inadmissible into the United States if the parent does not have lawful permanent resident status.

Federal employees must promptly notify ICE if they receive an identification document indicating that an individual is unlawfully present. ICE must promptly place the individual in removal proceedings.

### Actions Timeline

---

- **Jul 11, 2023:** Introduced in House
- **Jul 11, 2023:** Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Homeland Security, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.
- **Jul 11, 2023:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Border Security and Enforcement.