

HR 5018

Stop Human Trafficking of Unaccompanied Migrant Children Act of 2023

Congress: 118 (2023–2025, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Immigration

Introduced: Jul 27, 2023

Current Status: Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary.

Latest Action: Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary. (Jul 27, 2023)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-bill/5018>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Luttrell, Morgan [R-TX-8]

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

Cosponsors (15 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Boebert, Lauren [R-CO-3]	R · CO		Jul 27, 2023
Rep. Crawford, Eric A. "Rick" [R-AR-1]	R · AR		Jul 27, 2023
Rep. Gimenez, Carlos A. [R-FL-28]	R · FL		Jul 27, 2023
Rep. Jackson, Ronny [R-TX-13]	R · TX		Jul 27, 2023
Rep. Norman, Ralph [R-SC-5]	R · SC		Jul 27, 2023
Rep. Posey, Bill [R-FL-8]	R · FL		Jul 27, 2023
Rep. Salazar, Maria Elvira [R-FL-27]	R · FL		Jul 27, 2023
Rep. Self, Keith [R-TX-3]	R · TX		Jul 27, 2023
Rep. Steube, W. Gregory [R-FL-17]	R · FL		Jul 27, 2023
Rep. Hageman, Harriet M. [R-WY-At Large]	R · WY		Aug 11, 2023
Rep. Higgins, Clay [R-LA-3]	R · LA		Aug 11, 2023
Rep. Nunn, Zachary [R-IA-3]	R · IA		Aug 11, 2023
Rep. Rutherford, John H. [R-FL-5]	R · FL		Aug 18, 2023
Rep. De La Cruz, Monica [R-TX-15]	R · TX		Sep 21, 2023
Rep. Donalds, Byron [R-FL-19]	R · FL		Apr 18, 2024

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Judiciary Committee	House	Referred To	Jul 27, 2023

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Immigration

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
118 S 1461	Identical bill	May 4, 2023: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Summary (as of Jul 27, 2023)

Stop Human Trafficking of Unaccompanied Migrant Children Act of 2023

This bill imposes additional requirements relating to placing unaccompanied alien children with sponsors. (Under federal law, an *unaccompanied alien child* is a minor with no lawful immigration status and no parent or legal guardian in the United States to provide care and physical custody.)

Before the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) may release such a child to a sponsor, the sponsor must complete a fingerprint background check and vetting that includes (1) a public records check, (2) a National Sex Offender Registry check, (3) a Federal Bureau of Investigation National Criminal History Check, (4) a child abuse and neglect check, and (5) state and local criminal history checks. Each adult in the sponsor's household must also undergo such vetting before the placement.

Currently, the Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) within HHS conducts background checks of potential sponsors, which includes fingerprinting and checks of criminal public records and sex offender registries. ORR also vets adults in the sponsor's household in certain cases, such as if the sponsor is unrelated to the child, but this vetting may be waived or relaxed.

The bill also requires HHS to visit the home of a proposed sponsor before the placement and to conduct periodic home visits after.

A child may not be placed with a sponsor who is unlawfully present in the United States unless the sponsor is the child's parent, relative, or legal guardian.

HHS must retroactively apply these vetting standards to all sponsors for placements made since January 20, 2021.

Actions Timeline

- Jul 27, 2023: Introduced in House
- Jul 27, 2023: Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary.