

HR 5990

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

Congress: 118 (2023–2025, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Immigration

Introduced: Oct 19, 2023

Current Status: Referred to the House Committee on Homeland Security.

Latest Action: Referred to the House Committee on Homeland Security. (Oct 25, 2023)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-bill/5990>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Ciscomani, Juan [R-AZ-6]

Party: Republican • State: AZ • Chamber: House

Cosponsors (3 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Gonzalez, Vicente [D-TX-34]	D · TX		Oct 19, 2023
Rep. Davis, Donald G. [D-NC-1]	D · NC		Oct 24, 2023
Rep. Lee, Susie [D-NV-3]	D · NV		Jul 2, 2024

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Homeland Security Committee	House	Referred to	Oct 25, 2023

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Immigration

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
118 S 2278	Related bill	<b>Dec 2, 2024:</b> Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 652.

## **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 technician within the CBP Office of Field Operations. An image technician must (1) review nonintrusive inspection images of vehicles and cargo entering or exiting the United States; (2) assess whether there are indications that such vehicles and cargo contain contraband, illicitly concealed merchandise (e.g., drugs and weapons), or persons seeking to unlawfully enter the United States; and (3) recommend suspicious vehicles and cargo for further inspection by a CBP officer.

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

A CBP officer shall retain the discretion and final decision-making authority on whether to release a vehicle or cargo or refer the vehicle or cargo for further inspection.

The bill establishes annual training requirements for both image technician and supervisory image technician 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**

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- **Oct 25, 2023:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Border Security and Enforcement.
- **Oct 25, 2023:** Referred to the House Committee on Homeland Security.
- **Oct 19, 2023:** Introduced in House