

## HR 666

Access to Counsel Act

**Congress:** 118 (2023–2025, Ended)

**Chamber:** House

**Policy Area:** Immigration

**Introduced:** Jan 31, 2023

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

**Latest Action:** Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary. (Jan 31, 2023)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-bill/666>

### Sponsor

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**Name:** Rep. Jayapal, Pramila [D-WA-7]

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

**Cosponsors** (62 total)

<b>Cosponsor</b>	<b>Party / State</b>	<b>Role</b>	<b>Date Joined</b>
Del. Norton, Eleanor Holmes [D-DC-At Large]	D · DC		Jan 31, 2023
Rep. Auchincloss, Jake [D-MA-4]	D · MA		Jan 31, 2023
Rep. Barragan, Nanette Diaz [D-CA-44]	D · CA		Jan 31, 2023
Rep. Blumenauer, Earl [D-OR-3]	D · OR		Jan 31, 2023
Rep. Bonamici, Suzanne [D-OR-1]	D · OR		Jan 31, 2023
Rep. Carson, Andre [D-IN-7]	D · IN		Jan 31, 2023
Rep. Casten, Sean [D-IL-6]	D · IL		Jan 31, 2023
Rep. Chu, Judy [D-CA-28]	D · CA		Jan 31, 2023
Rep. Cicilline, David N. [D-RI-1]	D · RI		Jan 31, 2023
Rep. Clarke, Yvette D. [D-NY-9]	D · NY		Jan 31, 2023
Rep. Crockett, Jasmine [D-TX-30]	D · TX		Jan 31, 2023
Rep. Davis, Danny K. [D-IL-7]	D · IL		Jan 31, 2023
Rep. Espaillat, Adriano [D-NY-13]	D · NY		Jan 31, 2023
Rep. Gallego, Ruben [D-AZ-3]	D · AZ		Jan 31, 2023
Rep. Garcia, Jesus G. "Chuy" [D-IL-4]	D · IL		Jan 31, 2023
Rep. Garcia, Sylvia R. [D-TX-29]	D · TX		Jan 31, 2023
Rep. Grijalva, Raúl M. [D-AZ-7]	D · AZ		Jan 31, 2023
Rep. Jackson Lee, Sheila [D-TX-18]	D · TX		Jan 31, 2023
Rep. Jacobs, Sara [D-CA-51]	D · CA		Jan 31, 2023
Rep. Johnson, Henry C. "Hank," Jr. [D-GA-4]	D · GA		Jan 31, 2023
Rep. Khanna, Ro [D-CA-17]	D · CA		Jan 31, 2023
Rep. Kilmer, Derek [D-WA-6]	D · WA		Jan 31, 2023
Rep. Krishnamoorthi, Raja [D-IL-8]	D · IL		Jan 31, 2023
Rep. Lee, Barbara [D-CA-12]	D · CA		Jan 31, 2023
Rep. Leger Fernandez, Teresa [D-NM-3]	D · NM		Jan 31, 2023
Rep. Lofgren, Zoe [D-CA-18]	D · CA		Jan 31, 2023
Rep. McGovern, James P. [D-MA-2]	D · MA		Jan 31, 2023
Rep. Moore, Gwen [D-WI-4]	D · WI		Jan 31, 2023
Rep. Nadler, Jerrold [D-NY-12]	D · NY		Jan 31, 2023
Rep. Napolitano, Grace F. [D-CA-31]	D · CA		Jan 31, 2023
Rep. Quigley, Mike [D-IL-5]	D · IL		Jan 31, 2023
Rep. Raskin, Jamie [D-MD-8]	D · MD		Jan 31, 2023
Rep. Scanlon, Mary Gay [D-PA-5]	D · PA		Jan 31, 2023
Rep. Schakowsky, Janice D. [D-IL-9]	D · IL		Jan 31, 2023
Rep. Schiff, Adam B. [D-CA-30]	D · CA		Jan 31, 2023
Rep. Smith, Adam [D-WA-9]	D · WA		Jan 31, 2023
Rep. Swalwell, Eric [D-CA-14]	D · CA		Jan 31, 2023
Rep. Tlaib, Rashida [D-MI-12]	D · MI		Jan 31, 2023
Rep. Torres, Norma J. [D-CA-35]	D · CA		Jan 31, 2023
Rep. Vargas, Juan [D-CA-52]	D · CA		Jan 31, 2023
Rep. Wasserman Schultz, Debbie [D-FL-25]	D · FL		Jan 31, 2023

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Watson Coleman, Bonnie [D-NJ-12]	D · NJ		Jan 31, 2023
Rep. Casar, Greg [D-TX-35]	D · TX		Feb 2, 2023
Rep. DeSaulnier, Mark [D-CA-10]	D · CA		Feb 2, 2023
Rep. Cherfilus-McCormick, Sheila [D-FL-20]	D · FL		Feb 7, 2023
Rep. DeGette, Diana [D-CO-1]	D · CO		Feb 7, 2023
Rep. Meng, Grace [D-NY-6]	D · NY		Feb 7, 2023
Rep. Williams, Nikema [D-GA-5]	D · GA		Feb 7, 2023
Rep. Stansbury, Melanie Ann [D-NM-1]	D · NM		Feb 21, 2023
Rep. Porter, Katie [D-CA-47]	D · CA		Feb 24, 2023
Rep. Goldman, Daniel S. [D-NY-10]	D · NY		Feb 28, 2023
Rep. Trone, David J. [D-MD-6]	D · MD		Mar 22, 2023
Rep. Payne, Donald M., Jr. [D-NJ-10]	D · NJ		Apr 13, 2023
Rep. Frankel, Lois [D-FL-22]	D · FL		Apr 17, 2023
Rep. Lieu, Ted [D-CA-36]	D · CA		May 11, 2023
Rep. Evans, Dwight [D-PA-3]	D · PA		May 30, 2023
Rep. Lee, Summer L. [D-PA-12]	D · PA		Jun 20, 2023
Rep. Correa, J. Luis [D-CA-46]	D · CA		Jun 30, 2023
Rep. Tokuda, Jill N. [D-HI-2]	D · HI		Sep 8, 2023
Rep. Bowman, Jamaal [D-NY-16]	D · NY		Sep 12, 2023
Rep. Pressley, Ayanna [D-MA-7]	D · MA		Sep 19, 2023
Rep. Ramirez, Delia C. [D-IL-3]	D · IL		Oct 3, 2023

## Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Judiciary Committee	House	Referred To	Jan 31, 2023

## Subjects & Policy Tags

### Policy Area:

Immigration

## Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
118 S 342	Related bill	<b>Feb 9, 2023:</b> Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. (Sponsor introductory remarks on measure: CR S317)

## **Access to Counsel Act**

This bill provides various protections for covered individuals subject to secondary or deferred inspections when seeking admission into the United States. Covered individuals include U.S. nationals, lawful permanent residents, non-U.S. nationals (*aliens* under federal law) in possession of a visa, returning asylees, and refugees.

The Department of Homeland Security must ensure that a covered individual subject to secondary or deferred inspection has a meaningful opportunity to consult with counsel and certain related parties, such as a relative, within an hour of the start of the secondary inspection and as necessary during the inspection process. The counsel and related party must be allowed to advocate on behalf of the covered individual, including by providing evidence and information to the examining immigration officer.

A lawful permanent resident subject to secondary or deferred inspection may not abandon lawful permanent resident status until the individual has had a meaningful opportunity to seek advice from counsel, unless the individual voluntarily and knowingly waives in writing this opportunity to seek counsel's advice.

## **Actions Timeline**

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- **Jan 31, 2023:** Introduced in House
- **Jan 31, 2023:** Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary.