

HR 798

Protecting America's Meatpacking Workers Act of 2023

Congress: 118 (2023–2025, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Labor and Employment

Introduced: Feb 2, 2023

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

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Livestock, Dairy, and Poultry. (Mar 2, 2023)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-bill/798>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Khanna, Ro [D-CA-17]

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

Cosponsors (29 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Del. Norton, Eleanor Holmes [D-DC-At Large]	D · DC		Feb 2, 2023
Rep. Grijalva, Raúl M. [D-AZ-7]	D · AZ		Feb 2, 2023
Rep. Hayes, Jahana [D-CT-5]	D · CT		Feb 2, 2023
Rep. Lee, Barbara [D-CA-12]	D · CA		Feb 2, 2023
Rep. Payne, Donald M., Jr. [D-NJ-10]	D · NJ		Feb 2, 2023
Rep. Adams, Alma S. [D-NC-12]	D · NC		Aug 29, 2023
Rep. McGovern, James P. [D-MA-2]	D · MA		Oct 24, 2023
Rep. Velazquez, Nydia M. [D-NY-7]	D · NY		Oct 26, 2023
Rep. Waters, Maxine [D-CA-43]	D · CA		Oct 30, 2023
Rep. Garcia, Jesus G. "Chuy" [D-IL-4]	D · IL		Nov 8, 2023
Rep. Stansbury, Melanie Ann [D-NM-1]	D · NM		Jan 3, 2024
Rep. Cohen, Steve [D-TN-9]	D · TN		Jan 25, 2024
Rep. Chu, Judy [D-CA-28]	D · CA		Jan 31, 2024
Rep. Frost, Maxwell [D-FL-10]	D · FL		Feb 23, 2024
Rep. Garcia, Sylvia R. [D-TX-29]	D · TX		Feb 29, 2024
Rep. Brownley, Julia [D-CA-26]	D · CA		Mar 7, 2024
Rep. Jayapal, Pramila [D-WA-7]	D · WA		Mar 8, 2024
Rep. Budzinski, Nikki [D-IL-13]	D · IL		Mar 11, 2024
Rep. Schiff, Adam B. [D-CA-28]	D · CA		Mar 11, 2024
Rep. Pascrell, Bill [D-NJ-9]	D · NJ		Apr 11, 2024
Rep. Trone, David J. [D-MD-6]	D · MD		Apr 18, 2024
Rep. Goldman, Daniel S. [D-NY-10]	D · NY		May 6, 2024
Rep. Tonko, Paul [D-NY-20]	D · NY		May 15, 2024
Rep. Deluzio, Christopher R. [D-PA-17]	D · PA		May 21, 2024
Rep. Levin, Mike [D-CA-49]	D · CA		May 23, 2024
Rep. Neguse, Joe [D-CO-2]	D · CO		Jun 4, 2024
Rep. Garamendi, John [D-CA-8]	D · CA		Jun 27, 2024
Rep. Kaptur, Marcy [D-OH-9]	D · OH		Jun 27, 2024
Rep. Landsman, Greg [D-OH-1]	D · OH		Oct 8, 2024

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Agriculture Committee	House	Referred to	Mar 2, 2023
Committee on House Administration	House	Referred To	Feb 2, 2023
Education and Workforce Committee	House	Referred To	Feb 2, 2023
Judiciary Committee	House	Referred To	Feb 2, 2023
Oversight and Government Reform Committee	House	Referred To	Feb 2, 2023

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Labor and Employment

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
118 S 2633	Related bill	Jul 27, 2023: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.
118 S 270	Related bill	Feb 2, 2023: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

Summary (as of Feb 2, 2023)

Protecting America's Meatpacking Workers Act of 2023

This bill addresses workplace conditions and safety with a particular focus on meat and poultry processing establishments and makes other changes to agricultural programs and activities.

Generally, the bill provides funding through FY2029 for hiring additional Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) inspectors and related activities. It also restricts an employer's use of certain attendance policies under which a worker is assessed points for absences with progressive discipline imposed as points accumulate.

Additionally, the bill expands protections for workers who exercise their rights under occupational safety and health laws and regulations. This includes specific protections and procedures for workers of meat and poultry processing establishments.

The bill expands workplace safety and health requirements that apply to meat and poultry processing establishments, including by prohibiting waivers (subject to limited exceptions) related to line speeds and inspections. Additionally, OSHA must issue standards for these establishments that address, for example, ergonomic program management and preventing occupational exposure to COVID-19. OSHA must also (1) establish, within seven days, a process for establishments to report COVID-19 information; and (2) publish certain regulations regarding a workers' representative accompanying an OSHA inspector during inspections of an establishment.

The bill provides funding through FY2032 for, and imposes additional conditions on recipients of, grants to improve meat and poultry processing facilities. Further, the bill increases funding for a program that supports regional and local food systems. It also requires country-of-origin labeling of beef, pork, and dairy products.

Actions Timeline

- **Mar 2, 2023:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Livestock, Dairy, and Poultry.
- **Feb 2, 2023:** Introduced in House
- **Feb 2, 2023:** Referred to the Committee on Agriculture, and in addition to the Committees on Education and the Workforce, Oversight and Accountability, House Administration, and the Judiciary, 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.