

S 578

BEST Facilitation Act

Congress: 119 (2025–2027, Current)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Immigration

Introduced: Feb 13, 2025

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs. (Feb 13, 2025)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/119th-congress/senate-bill/578>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Lankford, James [R-OK]

Party: Republican • **State:** OK • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (3 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Cornyn, John [R-TX]	R · TX		Feb 13, 2025
Sen. Kelly, Mark [D-AZ]	D · AZ		Feb 13, 2025
Sen. Warnock, Raphael G. [D-GA]	D · GA		Mar 25, 2025

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee	Senate	Referred To	Feb 13, 2025

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Immigration

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
119 HR 1294	Identical bill	Feb 13, 2025: Referred to the Subcommittee on Border Security and Enforcement.

Border Enforcement, Security, and Trade Facilitation Act of 2025 or the BEST Facilitation Act

This bill establishes a pilot program for 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 1 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 such vehicles and cargo contain contraband, illicit drugs, weapons, or persons seeking to unlawfully enter the United States; and (3) refer suspicious vehicles and cargo for further inspection by a CBP officer. These reviews must take place at one of five regional command centers established pursuant to this pilot program.

The bill also establishes the position of image technician 2 with additional responsibilities, including receiving and reporting intelligence to the National Targeting Center about techniques used by malign actors to transport contraband, illicit drugs, weapons, and persons seeking to unlawfully enter the United States.

Image technicians must be supervised by a supervisory CBP officer.

The bill establishes annual training requirements for both positions, including training on privacy and civil liberties and how to analyze inspection images.

This pilot program ends five years after the date of enactment of this bill. Individuals employed as image technicians at the end of the pilot program may transfer to comparable positions within CBP or the Department of Homeland Security.

Actions Timeline

- **Feb 13, 2025:** Introduced in Senate
- **Feb 13, 2025:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

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