

HR 61

Ensuring United Families at the Border Act

Congress: 119 (2025–2027, Current)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Immigration

Introduced: Jan 3, 2025

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

Latest Action: Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary. (Jan 3, 2025)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/119th-congress/house-bill/61>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Biggs, Andy [R-AZ-5]

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

Cosponsors (3 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Burlison, Eric [R-MO-7]	R · MO		Jan 3, 2025
Rep. Crane, Elijah [R-AZ-2]	R · AZ		Jan 3, 2025
Rep. Nehls, Troy E. [R-TX-22]	R · TX		Jan 3, 2025

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Judiciary Committee	House	Referred To	Jan 3, 2025

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Immigration

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
119 HR 116	Related bill	Jan 3, 2025: Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, 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.

Ensuring United Families at the Border Act

This bill addresses the treatment of children who are non-U.S. nationals (*aliens* under federal law), including by statutorily establishing that there is no presumption that such a child (other than an unaccompanied child) should not be detained for immigration purposes.

Specifically, the bill states that the detention of such minors shall be governed by specified sections of the Immigration and Nationality Act and not any other provision of law, judicial ruling, or settlement agreement.

(A 1997 settlement agreement, commonly known as the *Flores* agreement, imposes requirements relating to the treatment of detained alien minors, including requiring such minors to be released or placed in a nonsecure facility after a certain amount of time in detention.)

If an adult enters the United States unlawfully with their child, the Department of Homeland Security must detain the adult and child together if the only criminal charge against the adult is a misdemeanor for unlawful entry.

This bill also prohibits states from imposing licensing requirements on immigration detention facilities used to detain minors or families with minors.

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