

116TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# S. 4597

To require U.S. Customs and Border Protection to permit the entry into the United States of pets accompanying United States nationals repatriating during public health emergencies.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 16, 2020

Mr. KENNEDY (for himself and Mr. BOOKER) introduced the following bill;  
which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance

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## A BILL

To require U.S. Customs and Border Protection to permit the entry into the United States of pets accompanying United States nationals repatriating during public health emergencies.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 The Act may be cited as the “Permanently Uniting  
5 Pets Stateside Act” or the “PUPS Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. ENTRY OF PETS OF UNITED STATES NATIONALS RE-**  
2 **PATRIATING DURING PUBLIC HEALTH EMER-**  
3 **GENCIES.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Commissioner of U.S. Cus-  
5 toms and Border Protection shall permit the entry into  
6 the United States of a pet accompanying a covered indi-  
7 vidual entering the United States without regard to the  
8 requirements of the Centers for Disease Control and Pre-  
9 vention or the Department of Agriculture with respect to  
10 the entry of pets into the United States if the individual  
11 agrees to comply with those requirements as soon as prac-  
12 ticable after entering the United States.

13 (b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

14 (1) COVERED INDIVIDUAL.—The term “covered  
15 individual” means an individual who—

16 (A) is a citizen of the United States or an  
17 alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence  
18 to the United States;

19 (B) has been living or traveling outside the  
20 United States; and

21 (C) is returning to the United States dur-  
22 ing a public health emergency declared under  
23 section 319 of the Public Health Service Act  
24 (42 U.S.C. 247d).

- 1           (2) PET.—The term “pet” means a domestic  
2    dog, cat, or bird.

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