

Duma Passes Controversial Adoption Bill

By [The Moscow Times](#)

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The State Duma passed in its third reading on Friday the "Dima Yakovlev bill" banning U.S. adoptions of Russian children, news reports said.

At the Duma's last session for the year, 420 deputies voted for the bill, seven voted against, and one abstained. Among those who voted against the bill were United Russia Deputy Boris Reznik, A Just Russia deputies Dmitry Gudkov, Valery Zubov, Sergei Petrov and opposition leader Ilya Ponomaryov, Interfax.ru reported.

The bill also calls for financial and visa-related sanctions against any individuals who violate the rights of Russian citizens.

The legislation will now be passed on to the Federation Council before heading to President Vladimir Putin to be signed into law. It is expected to come into force on Jan. 1.

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