



# Obama Takes Steps to End the HIV Travel Ban

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The federal Office of Management and Budget posted a notice on its website June 26 saying that the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) could take steps to remove a travel regulation that prohibits HIV-positive travelers from entering the United States, [The Advocate](#) reports. Specifics about the regulatory change will be available in the next few days.

“We won’t know all of the details until the HHS regulation is posted,” said Steve Ralls, communications director for Immigration Equality. “Congress’s intent was clear that this should be a clean lift of the ban—our hope is that will be reflected in the HHS regulation.”

Former President George W. Bush signed into law a measure to remove the HIV travel ban last summer, but HHS has yet to put the new policy into effect. After a substantial public comment and approval phase, the new travel regulation could go into effect in the fall.

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