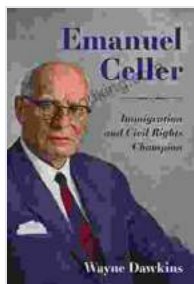


# Emanuel Celler: Immigration and Civil Rights Champion



## Emanuel Celler: Immigration and Civil Rights Champion

by Wayne Dawkins

★★★★☆ 4.2 out of 5

Language : English

File size : 4774 KB

Text-to-Speech : Enabled

Screen Reader : Supported

Enhanced typesetting : Enabled

Word Wise : Enabled

Print length : 240 pages

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Emanuel Celler was a prominent figure in American politics, known for his tireless advocacy for immigration and civil rights. His career spanned over four decades, during which he made significant contributions to shaping American history.

### **Early Life and Career**

Emanuel Celler was born on December 6, 1888, in Brooklyn, New York. His parents were Jewish immigrants from Russia who instilled in him a strong sense of social justice. After graduating from college and law school, Celler entered politics and was elected to the New York State Assembly in 1915.

In 1923, Celler was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives, where he served for 50 years. Throughout his career, he was a strong advocate for immigration reform, believing that the United States should be a welcoming nation for people from all over the world.

## **Immigration Reform**

One of Celler's most notable achievements was his work on the Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952, also known as the McCarran-Walter Act. This landmark legislation reformed the U.S. immigration system, eliminating national origin quotas that had discriminated against non-European immigrants.

Celler also played a key role in the Refugee Relief Act of 1953, which allowed over 200,000 refugees from Eastern Europe and Asia to enter the United States. This legislation was inspired by the plight of Jewish refugees who were fleeing persecution during World War II.

## **Civil Rights**

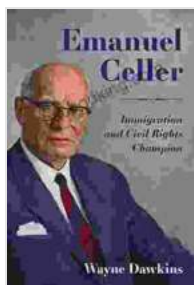
In addition to his work on immigration, Celler was a staunch advocate for civil rights. He was a co-sponsor of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which outlawed discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, or national origin.

Celler also played a leading role in the passage of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, which prohibited racial discrimination in voting. This landmark legislation was a major step forward in the fight for racial equality in the United States.

## Legacy

Emanuel Celler's legacy as an advocate for immigration and civil rights is immense. His work helped to make the United States a more welcoming and just nation for all. He was a true champion of the American dream, and his contributions will continue to inspire generations to come.

Celler died in 1981 at the age of 92. He is buried in Washington, D.C., near the Capitol Building where he spent so many years fighting for the causes he believed in.



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