

111TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# S. 2960

To exempt aliens who are admitted as refugees or granted asylum and are employed overseas by the Federal Government from the 1-year physical presence requirement for adjustment of status to that of aliens lawfully admitted for permanent residence, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 28, 2010

Mr. LEAHY (for himself and Mr. LUGAR) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

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## A BILL

To exempt aliens who are admitted as refugees or granted asylum and are employed overseas by the Federal Government from the 1-year physical presence requirement for adjustment of status to that of aliens lawfully admitted for permanent residence, and for other purposes.

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 This Act may be cited as the “Refugee Opportunity  
5 Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. EXCEPTION TO ONE-YEAR PHYSICAL PRESENCE RE-**  
2 **QUIREMENT FOR ADJUSTMENT OF STATUS**  
3 **FOR ALIENS GRANTED ASYLUM AND EM-**  
4 **PLOYED OVERSEAS BY THE FEDERAL GOV-**  
5 **ERNMENT.**

6 Section 209 of the Immigration and Nationality Act  
7 (8 U.S.C. 1159) is amended—

8 (1) in subsection (a)(1)(B), by inserting “(ex-  
9 cept as provided under subsection (d))” after “one  
10 year”;

11 (2) in subsection (b)(2), by inserting “(except  
12 as provided under subsection (d)),” after “asylum”;  
13 and

14 (3) by adding at the end the following:

15 “(d) **EXCEPTION TO 1-YEAR RESIDENCY REQUIRE-**  
16 **MENT FOR ADJUSTMENT OF STATUS.**—An alien who does  
17 not meet the physical presence requirement under sub-  
18 section (a)(1)(B) or (b)(2), but who otherwise meets the  
19 requirements under subsection (a) or (b) for adjustment  
20 of status to that of an alien lawfully admitted for perma-  
21 nent residence, shall be eligible for such adjustment of sta-  
22 tus if the alien did not meet the 1-year physical presence  
23 requirement because the alien was employed outside of the  
24 United States by the Federal Government or by a con-  
25 tractor of the Federal Government.”.