

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.

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

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.”.