

115TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# S. 2522

To provide for automatic acquisition of United States citizenship for certain internationally adopted individuals, and for other purposes.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 8, 2018

Mr. BLUNT (for himself, Ms. HIRONO, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, and Ms. COLLINS) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

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## A BILL

To provide for automatic acquisition of United States citizenship for certain internationally adopted individuals, 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 “Adoptee Citizenship  
5 Act of 2018”.

6 **SEC. 2. UNITED STATES CITIZENSHIP FOR CERTAIN INTER-**  
7 **NATIONALLY ADOPTED INDIVIDUALS.**

8 Section 320(b) of the Immigration and Nationality  
9 Act (8 U.S.C. 1431(b)) is amended to read as follows:

1 “(b) ADOPTED CHILDREN OF CITIZEN PARENT.—

2 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (a) shall apply  
3 to a child adopted by a United States citizen parent  
4 if the child satisfies the requirements applicable to  
5 adopted children under subparagraph (E), (F), or  
6 (G) of section 101(b)(1).

7 “(2) LIMITED APPLICATION TO CERTAIN  
8 ADOPTED INDIVIDUALS RESIDING IN THE UNITED  
9 STATES.—Notwithstanding section 318, an indi-  
10 vidual born outside of the United States who was  
11 adopted by a United States citizen parent shall auto-  
12 matically become a citizen of the United States when  
13 all of the following conditions have been fulfilled:

14 “(A) The individual was adopted by a  
15 United States citizen before the individual  
16 reached 18 years of age.

17 “(B) The individual was physically present  
18 in the United States in the legal custody of the  
19 citizen parent pursuant to a lawful admission  
20 before the individual reached 18 years of age.

21 “(C) The individual never acquired United  
22 States citizenship before the date of the enact-  
23 ment of the Adoptee Citizenship Act of 2018.

24 “(D) The individual was residing in the  
25 United States on the date of the enactment of

1 the Adoptee Citizenship Act of 2018 pursuant  
2 to a lawful admission.

3 “(3) LIMITED APPLICATION TO CERTAIN  
4 ADOPTED INDIVIDUALS RESIDING OUTSIDE OF THE  
5 UNITED STATES.—

6 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subpara-  
7 graphs (B) through (D), an individual who  
8 meets all of the criteria described in subpara-  
9 graphs (A) through (C) of paragraph (2) shall  
10 automatically become a citizen of the United  
11 States on the date on which the individual is  
12 physically present in the United States pursu-  
13 ant to a lawful admission.

14 “(B) INAPPLICABILITY OF GROUNDS OF  
15 INADMISSIBILITY.—The grounds of inadmis-  
16 sibility set forth in section 212(a) shall not  
17 apply to an individual described in subpara-  
18 graph (A) who is seeking admission to the  
19 United States.

20 “(C) CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECK.—An  
21 individual described in subparagraph (A) may  
22 not be issued a visa unless—

23 “(i) the individual was subjected to a  
24 criminal background check; and

1           “(ii) if the background check con-  
2           ducted pursuant to clause (i) reveals that  
3           the individual has committed a crime that  
4           was not properly resolved, the Secretary of  
5           Homeland Security and the Secretary of  
6           State coordinated with relevant law en-  
7           forcement agencies to ensure that appro-  
8           priate action is taken to resolve such crimi-  
9           nal activity.

10           “(D) DEPORTABLE OFFENSES.—An indi-  
11           vidual described in subparagraph (A) may not  
12           be granted automatic citizenship under this  
13           paragraph if the individual—

14                   “(i) has been found guilty of a deport-  
15                   able offense that has as an element the  
16                   use, attempted use, or threatened use of  
17                   physical force against another person; and

18                           “(ii) was deported.”.

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