

117TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 1051

To amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to clarify the contempt authority of immigration judges, and for other purposes.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 25, 2021

Mr. KENNEDY introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

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## A BILL

To amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to clarify the contempt authority of immigration judges, 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 “Empowering Immigra-  
5 tion Courts Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. CONTEMPT AUTHORITY OF IMMIGRATION JUDGES.**

7 Section 240(b)(1) of the Immigration and Nationality  
8 Act (8 U.S.C. 1229a(b)(1)) is amended by striking  
9 “(under regulations prescribed by the Attorney General)  
10 to sanction by civil money penalty any action (or inaction)

1 in contempt of the judge's proper exercise of authority  
2 under this Act" and inserting "to sanction by fine con-  
3 tempt of its authority in accordance with section 401 of  
4 title 18, United States Code".

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