

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 9654

To amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to require effective sharing of court information regarding unaccompanied alien children released from custody, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 18, 2024

Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to require effective sharing of court information regarding unaccompanied alien children released from custody, 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 “Stop Alien Children
5 Trafficking Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. EFFECTIVE SHARING OF COURT INFORMATION RE-**
2 **GARDING UNACCOMPANIED ALIEN CHIL-**
3 **DREN RELEASED FROM CUSTODY.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subtitle I of title VIII of the
5 Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 481 et seq.)
6 is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

7 **“SEC. 896. EFFECTIVE SHARING OF COURT INFORMATION**
8 **REGARDING UNACCOMPANIED ALIEN CHIL-**
9 **DREN RELEASED FROM CUSTODY.**

10 “(a) INFORMATION SHARING.—

11 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 60 days
12 after date of the enactment of this section, the Di-
13 rector of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforce-
14 ment shall implement an automated process to iden-
15 tify unaccompanied alien children who do not appear
16 for immigration hearings and share such informa-
17 tion with the following:

18 “(A) Internally, between the following:

19 “(i) Office of the Principal Legal Ad-
20 visor.

21 “(ii) Enforcement and Removal Oper-
22 ations.

23 “(B) Externally, with the following:

24 “(i) U.S. Customs and Border Protec-
25 tion.

1 “(ii) The Office of Refugee Resettle-
2 ment of the Department of Health and
3 Human Services.

4 “(iii) The Department of Justice.

5 “(2) ACCOUNTABILITY.—

6 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Each fiscal year, the
7 Secretary shall submit to the Attorney General
8 an annual written certification indicating
9 whether U.S. Immigration and Customs En-
10 forcement is in compliance with subsection (a).

11 “(B) COMPLIANCE DETERMINATION.—Not
12 later than 60 days after the submission of the
13 certification under subparagraph (A), the Attor-
14 ney General shall determine whether U.S. Im-
15 migration and Customs Enforcement has
16 achieved compliance with subsection (a).

17 “(C) NONCOMPLIANCE PENALTIES.—For
18 each of fiscal years 2025 through 2035, each
19 political appointee of U.S. Immigration and
20 Customs Enforcement shall not be eligible for
21 the receipt of bonus pay, excluding overtime
22 pay, until—

23 “(i) the Secretary certifies compliance
24 pursuant to subparagraph (A); and

1 “(ii) the Attorney General makes a
2 determination of compliance pursuant to
3 subparagraph (B).”.

4 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents
5 in section 1(b) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 is
6 amended by inserting after the item relating to section
7 895 the following new item:

“Sec. 896. Effective sharing of court information regarding unaccompanied
alien children released from custody.”.

○