

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 9773

To secure the borders of the United States, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 20, 2026

Mr. ROY introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To secure the borders of the United States, 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; TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

4 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the
5 “Permanent Trump Secure Border Act”.

6 (b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for
7 this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

Sec. 2. Severability.

TITLE I—ASYLUM REFORM AND BORDER PROTECTION

- Sec. 101. Safe third country.
- Sec. 102. Credible fear interviews.
- Sec. 103. Clarification of asylum eligibility.
- Sec. 104. Exceptions.
- Sec. 105. Employment authorization.
- Sec. 106. Rules for determining asylum eligibility.
- Sec. 107. Firm resettlement.
- Sec. 108. Notice concerning frivolous asylum applications.
- Sec. 109. Technical amendments.
- Sec. 110. Requirement for procedures relating to certain asylum applications.

TITLE II—BORDER SAFETY AND MIGRANT PROTECTION

- Sec. 201. Inspection of applicants for admission.

TITLE III—PROTECTION OF CHILDREN

- Sec. 301. Repatriation of unaccompanied alien children.
- Sec. 302. Special immigrant juvenile status for immigrants unable to reunite with either parent.
- Sec. 303. Rule of construction.

TITLE IV—ENSURING UNITED FAMILIES AT THE BORDER

- Sec. 401. Clarification of standards for family detention.

TITLE V—VISA OVERSTAYS PENALTIES

- Sec. 501. Expanded penalties for illegal entry or presence.

TITLE VI—IMMIGRATION PAROLE REFORM

- Sec. 601. Immigration parole reform.
- Sec. 602. Implementation.

1 **SEC. 2. SEVERABILITY.**

2 If any provision of this Act or any amendment by
3 this Act, or the application of such provision or amend-
4 ment to any person or circumstance, is held to be uncon-
5 stitutional, the remainder of this Act and the application
6 of such provision or amendment to any other person or
7 circumstance shall not be affected.

1 **TITLE I—ASYLUM REFORM AND**
2 **BORDER PROTECTION**

3 **SEC. 101. SAFE THIRD COUNTRY.**

4 Section 208(a)(2)(A) of the Immigration and Nation-
5 ality Act (8 U.S.C. 1158(a)(2)(A)) is amended—

6 (1) by striking “if the Attorney General deter-
7 mines” and inserting “if the Attorney General or the
8 Secretary of Homeland Security determines—”;

9 (2) by striking “that the alien may be removed”
10 and inserting the following:

11 “(i) that the alien may be removed”;

12 (3) by striking “, pursuant to a bilateral or
13 multilateral agreement, to” and inserting “to”;

14 (4) by inserting “or the Secretary, on a case by
15 case basis,” before “finds that”;

16 (5) by striking the period at the end and insert-
17 ing “; or”; and

18 (6) by adding at the end the following:

19 “(ii) that the alien entered, attempted to enter,
20 or arrived in the United States after transiting
21 through at least one country outside the alien’s
22 country of citizenship, nationality, or last lawful ha-
23 bitual residence en route to the United States, un-
24 less—

1 “(I) the alien demonstrates that he or she
2 applied for protection from persecution or tor-
3 ture in at least one country outside the alien’s
4 country of citizenship, nationality, or last lawful
5 habitual residence through which the alien
6 transited en route to the United States, and the
7 alien received a final judgment denying the
8 alien protection in each country;

9 “(II) the alien demonstrates that he or she
10 was a victim of a severe form of trafficking in
11 which a commercial sex act was induced by
12 force, fraud, or coercion, or in which the person
13 induced to perform such act was under the age
14 of 18 years; or in which the trafficking included
15 the recruitment, harboring, transportation, pro-
16 vision, or obtaining of a person for labor or
17 services through the use of force, fraud, or coer-
18 cion for the purpose of subjection to involuntary
19 servitude, peonage, debt bondage, or slavery,
20 and was unable to apply for protection from
21 persecution in each country through which the
22 alien transited en route to the United States as
23 a result of such severe form of trafficking; or

24 “(III) the only countries through which the
25 alien transited en route to the United States

1 were, at the time of the transit, not parties to
2 the 1951 United Nations Convention relating to
3 the Status of Refugees, the 1967 Protocol Re-
4 lating to the Status of Refugees, or the United
5 Nations Convention against Torture and Other
6 Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or
7 Punishment.”.

8 **SEC. 102. CREDIBLE FEAR INTERVIEWS.**

9 Section 235(b)(1)(B)(v) of the Immigration and Na-
10 tionality Act (8 U.S.C. 1225(b)(1)(B)(v)) is amended by
11 striking “there is a significant possibility” and all that fol-
12 lows, and inserting “, taking into account the credibility
13 of the statements made by the alien in support of the
14 alien’s claim, as determined pursuant to section
15 208(b)(1)(B)(iii), and such other facts as are known to
16 the officer, the alien more likely than not could establish
17 eligibility for asylum under section 208, and it is more
18 likely than not that the statements made by, and on behalf
19 of, the alien in support of the alien’s claim are true.”.

20 **SEC. 103. CLARIFICATION OF ASYLUM ELIGIBILITY.**

21 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 208(b)(1)(A) of the Im-
22 migration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1158(b)(1)(A))
23 is amended by inserting after “section 101(a)(42)(A)” the
24 following: “(in accordance with the rules set forth in this

1 section), and is eligible to apply for asylum under sub-
2 section (a)”).

3 (b) PLACE OF ARRIVAL.—Section 208(a)(1) of the
4 Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1158(a)(1))
5 is amended—

6 (1) by striking “or who arrives in the United
7 States (whether or not at a designated port of ar-
8 rival and including an alien who is brought to the
9 United States after having been interdicted in inter-
10 national or United States waters),”; and

11 (2) by inserting after “United States” the fol-
12 lowing: “and has arrived in the United States at a
13 port of entry (including an alien who is brought to
14 the United States after having been interdicted in
15 international or United States waters),”.

16 **SEC. 104. EXCEPTIONS.**

17 Paragraph (2) of section 208(b) of the Immigration
18 and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1158(b)(2)) is amended to
19 read as follows:

20 “(2) EXCEPTIONS.—

21 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (1) shall
22 not apply to an alien if the Secretary of Home-
23 land Security or the Attorney General deter-
24 mines that—

1 “(i) the alien ordered, incited, as-
2 sisted, or otherwise participated in the per-
3 secution of any person on account of race,
4 religion, nationality, membership in a par-
5 ticular social group, or political opinion;

6 “(ii) the alien has been convicted of
7 any felony under Federal, State, tribal, or
8 local law;

9 “(iii) the alien has been convicted of
10 any misdemeanor offense under Federal,
11 State, tribal, or local law involving—

12 “(I) the unlawful possession or
13 use of an identification document, au-
14 thentication feature, or false identi-
15 fication document (as those terms and
16 phrases are defined in the jurisdiction
17 where the conviction occurred), unless
18 the alien can establish that the convic-
19 tion resulted from circumstances
20 showing that—

21 “(aa) the document or fea-
22 ture was presented before board-
23 ing a common carrier;

1 “(bb) the document or fea-
2 ture related to the alien’s eligi-
3 bility to enter the United States;

4 “(cc) the alien used the doc-
5 ument or feature to depart a
6 country wherein the alien has
7 claimed a fear of persecution;
8 and

9 “(dd) the alien claimed a
10 fear of persecution without delay
11 upon presenting himself or her-
12 self to an immigration officer
13 upon arrival at a United States
14 port of entry;

15 “(II) the unlawful receipt of a
16 Federal public benefit (as defined in
17 section 401(c) of the Personal Re-
18 sponsibility and Work Opportunity
19 Reconciliation Act of 1996 (8 U.S.C.
20 1611(c))), from a Federal entity, or
21 the unlawful receipt of similar public
22 benefits from a State, tribal, or local
23 entity; or

24 “(III) possession or trafficking of
25 a controlled substance or controlled

1 substance paraphernalia, as those
2 phrases are defined under the law of
3 the jurisdiction where the conviction
4 occurred, other than a single offense
5 involving possession for one's own use
6 of 30 grams or less of marijuana (as
7 marijuana is defined under the law of
8 the jurisdiction where the conviction
9 occurred);

10 “(iv) the alien has been convicted of
11 an offense arising under paragraph (1)(A)
12 or (2) of section 274(a), or under section
13 276;

14 “(v) the alien has been convicted of a
15 Federal, State, tribal, or local crime that
16 the Attorney General or Secretary of
17 Homeland Security knows, or has reason
18 to believe, was committed in support, pro-
19 motion, or furtherance of the activity of a
20 criminal street gang (as defined under the
21 law of the jurisdiction where the conviction
22 occurred or in section 521(a) of title 18,
23 United States Code);

24 “(vi) the alien has been convicted of
25 an offense for driving while intoxicated or

1 impaired, as those terms are defined under
2 the law of the jurisdiction where the con-
3 viction occurred (including a conviction for
4 driving while under the influence of or im-
5 paired by alcohol or drugs), without regard
6 to whether the conviction is classified as a
7 misdemeanor or felony under Federal,
8 State, tribal, or local law, in which such in-
9 toxicated or impaired driving was a cause
10 of serious bodily injury or death of another
11 person;

12 “(vii) the alien has been convicted of
13 more than one offense for driving while in-
14 toxicated or impaired, as those terms are
15 defined under the law of the jurisdiction
16 where the conviction occurred (including a
17 conviction for driving while under the in-
18 fluence of or impaired by alcohol or drugs),
19 without regard to whether the conviction is
20 classified as a misdemeanor or felony
21 under Federal, State, tribal, or local law;

22 “(viii) the alien has been convicted of
23 a crime—

24 “(I) that involves conduct
25 amounting to a crime of stalking;

1 “(II) of child abuse, child ne-
2 glect, or child abandonment; or

3 “(III) that involves conduct
4 amounting to a domestic assault or
5 battery offense, including—

6 “(aa) a misdemeanor crime
7 of domestic violence, as described
8 in section 921(a)(33) of title 18,
9 United States Code;

10 “(bb) a crime of domestic vi-
11 olence, as described in section
12 40002(a)(12) of the Violence
13 Against Women Act of 1994 (34
14 U.S.C. 12291(a)(12)); or

15 “(cc) any crime based on
16 conduct in which the alien har-
17 assed, coerced, intimidated, vol-
18 untarily or recklessly used (or
19 threatened to use) force or vio-
20 lence against, or inflicted phys-
21 ical injury or physical pain, how-
22 ever slight, upon a person—

23 “(AA) who is a current
24 or former spouse of the
25 alien;

1 “(BB) with whom the
2 alien shares a child;

3 “(CC) who is cohabi-
4 tating with, or who has
5 cohabitated with, the alien
6 as a spouse;

7 “(DD) who is similarly
8 situated to a spouse of the
9 alien under the domestic or
10 family violence laws of the
11 jurisdiction where the of-
12 fense occurred; or

13 “(EE) who is protected
14 from that alien’s acts under
15 the domestic or family vio-
16 lence laws of the United
17 States or of any State, tribal
18 government, or unit of local
19 government;

20 “(ix) the alien has engaged in acts of
21 battery or extreme cruelty upon a person
22 and the person—

23 “(I) is a current or former
24 spouse of the alien;

1 “(II) shares a child with the
2 alien;

3 “(III) cohabitates or has
4 cohabitated with the alien as a spouse;

5 “(IV) is similarly situated to a
6 spouse of the alien under the domestic
7 or family violence laws of the jurisdic-
8 tion where the offense occurred; or

9 “(V) is protected from that
10 alien’s acts under the domestic or
11 family violence laws of the United
12 States or of any State, tribal govern-
13 ment, or unit of local government;

14 “(x) the alien, having been convicted
15 by a final judgment of a particularly seri-
16 ous crime, constitutes a danger to the com-
17 munity of the United States;

18 “(xi) there are serious reasons for be-
19 lieving that the alien has committed a seri-
20 ous nonpolitical crime outside the United
21 States prior to the arrival of the alien in
22 the United States;

23 “(xii) there are reasonable grounds
24 for regarding the alien as a danger to the
25 security of the United States;

1 “(xiii) the alien is described in sub-
2 clause (I), (II), (III), (IV), or (VI) of sec-
3 tion 212(a)(3)(B)(i) or section
4 237(a)(4)(B) (relating to terrorist activ-
5 ity), unless, in the case only of an alien in-
6 admissible under subclause (IV) of section
7 212(a)(3)(B)(i), the Secretary of Home-
8 land Security or the Attorney General de-
9 termines, in the Secretary’s or the Attor-
10 ney General’s discretion, that there are not
11 reasonable grounds for regarding the alien
12 as a danger to the security of the United
13 States;

14 “(xiv) the alien was firmly resettled in
15 another country prior to arriving in the
16 United States; or

17 “(xv) there are reasonable grounds for
18 concluding the alien could avoid persecu-
19 tion by relocating to another part of the
20 alien’s country of nationality or, in the
21 case of an alien having no nationality, an-
22 other part of the alien’s country of last ha-
23 bitual residence.

24 “(B) SPECIAL RULES.—

1 “(i) PARTICULARLY SERIOUS CRIME;
2 SERIOUS NONPOLITICAL CRIME OUTSIDE
3 THE UNITED STATES.—

4 “(I) IN GENERAL.—For purposes
5 of subparagraph (A)(x), the Attorney
6 General or Secretary of Homeland Se-
7 curity, in their discretion, may deter-
8 mine that a conviction constitutes a
9 particularly serious crime based on—

10 “(aa) the nature of the con-
11 viction;

12 “(bb) the type of sentence
13 imposed; or

14 “(cc) the circumstances and
15 underlying facts of the convic-
16 tion.

17 “(II) DETERMINATION.—In mak-
18 ing a determination under subclause
19 (I), the Attorney General or Secretary
20 of Homeland Security may consider
21 all reliable information and is not lim-
22 ited to facts found by the criminal
23 court or provided in the underlying
24 record of conviction.

1 “(III) TREATMENT OF FELO-
2 NIES.—In making a determination
3 under subclause (I), an alien who has
4 been convicted of a felony (as defined
5 under this section) or an aggravated
6 felony (as defined under section
7 101(a)(43)), shall be considered to
8 have been convicted of a particularly
9 serious crime.

10 “(IV) INTERPOL RED NOTICE.—
11 In making a determination under sub-
12 paragraph (A)(xi), an Interpol Red
13 Notice may constitute reliable evi-
14 dence that the alien has committed a
15 serious nonpolitical crime outside the
16 United States.

17 “(ii) CRIMES AND EXCEPTIONS.—

18 “(I) DRIVING WHILE INTOXI-
19 CATED OR IMPAIRED.—A finding
20 under subparagraph (A)(vi) does not
21 require the Attorney General or Sec-
22 retary of Homeland Security to find
23 the first conviction for driving while
24 intoxicated or impaired (including a
25 conviction for driving while under the

1 influence of or impaired by alcohol or
2 drugs) as a predicate offense. The At-
3 torney General or Secretary of Home-
4 land Security need only make a fac-
5 tual determination that the alien pre-
6 viously was convicted for driving while
7 intoxicated or impaired as those terms
8 are defined under the jurisdiction
9 where the conviction occurred (includ-
10 ing a conviction for driving while
11 under the influence of or impaired by
12 alcohol or drugs).

13 “(II) STALKING AND OTHER
14 CRIMES.—In making a determination
15 under subparagraph (A)(viii), includ-
16 ing determining the existence of a do-
17 mestic relationship between the alien
18 and the victim, the underlying conduct
19 of the crime may be considered, and
20 the Attorney General or Secretary of
21 Homeland Security is not limited to
22 facts found by the criminal court or
23 provided in the underlying record of
24 conviction.

1 “(III) BATTERY OR EXTREME
2 CRUELTY.—In making a determina-
3 tion under subparagraph (A)(ix), the
4 phrase ‘battery or extreme cruelty’ in-
5 cludes—

6 “(aa) any act or threatened
7 act of violence, including any
8 forceful detention, which results
9 or threatens to result in physical
10 or mental injury;

11 “(bb) psychological or sexual
12 abuse or exploitation, including
13 rape, molestation, incest, or
14 forced prostitution, shall be con-
15 sidered acts of violence; and

16 “(cc) other abusive acts, in-
17 cluding acts that, in and of them-
18 selves, may not initially appear
19 violent, but that are a part of an
20 overall pattern of violence.

21 “(IV) EXCEPTION FOR VICTIMS
22 OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE.—An alien
23 who was convicted of an offense de-
24 scribed in clause (viii) or (ix) of sub-
25 paragraph (A) is not ineligible for

1 asylum on that basis if the alien satis-
2 fies the criteria under section
3 237(a)(7)(A).

4 “(C) SPECIFIC CIRCUMSTANCES.—Para-
5 graph (1) shall not apply to an alien whose
6 claim is based on—

7 “(i) personal animus or retribution,
8 including personal animus in which the al-
9 leged persecutor has not targeted, or mani-
10 fested an animus against, other members
11 of an alleged particular social group in ad-
12 dition to the member who has raised the
13 claim at issue;

14 “(ii) the applicant’s generalized dis-
15 approval of, disagreement with, or opposi-
16 tion to criminal, terrorist, gang, guerilla,
17 or other non-state organizations absent ex-
18 pressive behavior in furtherance of a dis-
19 crete cause against such organizations re-
20 lated to control of a State or expressive be-
21 havior that is antithetical to the State or
22 a legal unit of the State;

23 “(iii) the applicant’s resistance to re-
24 cruitment or coercion by guerrilla, crimi-

1 nal, gang, terrorist, or other non-state or-
2 ganizations;

3 “(iv) the targeting of the applicant for
4 criminal activity for financial gain based
5 on wealth or affluence or perceptions of
6 wealth or affluence;

7 “(v) the applicant’s criminal activity;
8 or

9 “(vi) the applicant’s perceived, past or
10 present, gang affiliation.

11 “(D) DEFINITIONS AND CLARIFICA-
12 TIONS.—

13 “(i) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of
14 this paragraph:

15 “(I) FELONY.—The term ‘felony’
16 means—

17 “(aa) any crime defined as a
18 felony by the relevant jurisdiction
19 (Federal, State, tribal, or local)
20 of conviction; or

21 “(bb) any crime punishable
22 by more than one year of impris-
23 onment.

24 “(II) MISDEMEANOR.—The term
25 ‘misdemeanor’ means—

1 “(aa) any crime defined as a
2 misdemeanor by the relevant ju-
3 risdiction (Federal, State, tribal,
4 or local) of conviction; or

5 “(bb) any crime not punish-
6 able by more than one year of
7 imprisonment.

8 “(ii) CLARIFICATIONS.—

9 “(I) CONSTRUCTION.—For pur-
10 poses of this paragraph, whether any
11 activity or conviction also may con-
12 stitute a basis for removal is immate-
13 rial to a determination of asylum eli-
14 gibility.

15 “(II) ATTEMPT, CONSPIRACY, OR
16 SOLICITATION.—For purposes of this
17 paragraph, all references to a criminal
18 offense or criminal conviction shall be
19 deemed to include any attempt, con-
20 spiracy, or solicitation to commit the
21 offense or any other inchoate form of
22 the offense.

23 “(III) EFFECT OF CERTAIN OR-
24 DERS.—

1 “(aa) IN GENERAL.—No
2 order vacating a conviction,
3 modifying a sentence, clarifying a
4 sentence, or otherwise altering a
5 conviction or sentence shall have
6 any effect under this paragraph
7 unless the Attorney General or
8 Secretary of Homeland Security
9 determines that—

10 “(AA) the court issuing
11 the order had jurisdiction
12 and authority to do so; and

13 “(BB) the order was
14 not entered for rehabilitative
15 purposes or for purposes of
16 ameliorating the immigra-
17 tion consequences of the
18 conviction or sentence.

19 “(bb) AMELIORATING IMMI-
20 GRATION CONSEQUENCES.—For
21 purposes of item (aa)(BB), the
22 order shall be presumed to be for
23 the purpose of ameliorating im-
24 migration consequences if—

1 “(AA) the order was
2 entered after the initiation
3 of any proceeding to remove
4 the alien from the United
5 States; or

6 “(BB) the alien moved
7 for the order more than one
8 year after the date of the
9 original order of conviction
10 or sentencing, whichever is
11 later.

12 “(cc) AUTHORITY OF IMMI-
13 GRATION JUDGE.—An immigra-
14 tion judge is not limited to con-
15 sideration only of material in-
16 cluded in any order vacating a
17 conviction, modifying a sentence,
18 or clarifying a sentence to deter-
19 mine whether such order should
20 be given any effect under this
21 paragraph, but may consider
22 such additional information as
23 the immigration judge determines
24 appropriate.

1 “(E) ADDITIONAL LIMITATIONS.—The
2 Secretary of Homeland Security or the Attorney
3 General may by regulation establish additional
4 limitations and conditions, consistent with this
5 section, under which an alien shall be ineligible
6 for asylum under paragraph (1).

7 “(F) NO JUDICIAL REVIEW.—There shall
8 be no judicial review of a determination of the
9 Secretary of Homeland Security or the Attorney
10 General under subparagraph (A)(xiii).”.

11 **SEC. 105. EMPLOYMENT AUTHORIZATION.**

12 Paragraph (2) of section 208(d) of the Immigration
13 and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1158(d)) is amended to
14 read as follows:

15 “(2) EMPLOYMENT AUTHORIZATION.—

16 “(A) AUTHORIZATION PERMITTED.—An
17 applicant for asylum is not entitled to employ-
18 ment authorization, but such authorization may
19 be provided under regulation by the Secretary
20 of Homeland Security. An applicant who is not
21 otherwise eligible for employment authorization
22 shall not be granted such authorization prior to
23 the date that is 180 days after the date of filing
24 of the application for asylum.

1 “(B) TERMINATION.—Each grant of em-
2 ployment authorization under subparagraph
3 (A), and any renewal or extension thereof, shall
4 be valid for a period of 6 months, except that
5 such authorization, renewal, or extension shall
6 terminate in accordance with section 100011(b)
7 of Public Law 119–21 (commonly referred to as
8 the ‘One Big Beautiful Bill Act’).

9 “(C) RENEWAL.—The Secretary of Home-
10 land Security may not grant, renew, or extend
11 employment authorization to an alien if the
12 alien was previously granted employment au-
13 thorization under subparagraph (A), and the
14 employment authorization was terminated in ac-
15 cordance with section 100011(b) of Public Law
16 119–21 (commonly referred to as the ‘One Big
17 Beautiful Bill Act’), unless a Federal court of
18 appeals remands the alien’s case to the Board
19 of Immigration Appeals.

20 “(D) INELIGIBILITY.—The Secretary of
21 Homeland Security may not grant employment
22 authorization to an alien under this paragraph
23 if the alien—

24 “(i) is ineligible for asylum under sub-
25 section (b)(2)(A); or

1 “(ii) entered or attempted to enter the
2 United States at a place and time other
3 than lawfully through a United States port
4 of entry.”.

5 **SEC. 106. RULES FOR DETERMINING ASYLUM ELIGIBILITY.**

6 Section 208 of the Immigration and Nationality Act
7 (8 U.S.C. 1158) is amended by adding at the end the fol-
8 lowing:

9 “(f) RULES FOR DETERMINING ASYLUM ELIGI-
10 BILITY.—In making a determination under subsection
11 (b)(1)(A) with respect to whether an alien is a refugee
12 within the meaning of section 101(a)(42)(A), the following
13 shall apply:

14 “(1) PARTICULAR SOCIAL GROUP.—The Sec-
15 retary of Homeland Security or the Attorney Gen-
16 eral shall not determine that an alien is a member
17 of a particular social group unless the alien articu-
18 lates on the record, or provides a basis on the record
19 for determining, the definition and boundaries of the
20 alleged particular social group, establishes that the
21 particular social group exists independently from the
22 alleged persecution, and establishes that the alien’s
23 claim of membership in a particular social group
24 does not involve—

1 “(A) past or present criminal activity or
2 association (including gang membership);

3 “(B) presence in a country with general-
4 ized violence or a high crime rate;

5 “(C) being the subject of a recruitment ef-
6 fort by criminal, terrorist, or persecutory
7 groups;

8 “(D) the targeting of the applicant for
9 criminal activity for financial gain based on per-
10 ceptions of wealth or affluence;

11 “(E) interpersonal disputes of which gov-
12 ernmental authorities in the relevant society or
13 region were unaware or uninvolved;

14 “(F) private criminal acts of which govern-
15 mental authorities in the relevant society or re-
16 gion were unaware or uninvolved;

17 “(G) past or present terrorist activity or
18 association;

19 “(H) past or present persecutory activity
20 or association; or

21 “(I) status as an alien returning from the
22 United States.

23 “(2) POLITICAL OPINION.—The Secretary of
24 Homeland Security or the Attorney General may not
25 determine that an alien holds a political opinion with

1 respect to which the alien is subject to persecution
2 if the political opinion is constituted solely by gener-
3 alized disapproval of, disagreement with, or opposi-
4 tion to criminal, terrorist, gang, guerilla, or other
5 non-state organizations and does not include expres-
6 sive behavior in furtherance of a cause against such
7 organizations related to efforts by the State to con-
8 trol such organizations or behavior that is antithet-
9 ical to or otherwise opposes the ruling legal entity of
10 the State or a unit thereof.

11 “(3) PERSECUTION.—The Secretary of Home-
12 land Security or the Attorney General may not de-
13 termine that an alien has been subject to persecution
14 or has a well-founded fear of persecution based only
15 on—

16 “(A) the existence of laws or government
17 policies that are unenforced or infrequently en-
18 forced, unless there is credible evidence that
19 such a law or policy has been or would be ap-
20 plied to the applicant personally; or

21 “(B) the conduct of rogue foreign govern-
22 ment officials acting outside the scope of their
23 official capacity.

24 “(4) DISCRETIONARY DETERMINATION.—

1 “(A) ADVERSE DISCRETIONARY FAC-
2 TORS.—The Secretary of Homeland Security or
3 the Attorney General may only grant asylum to
4 an alien if the alien establishes that he or she
5 warrants a favorable exercise of discretion. In
6 making such a determination, the Attorney
7 General or Secretary of Homeland Security
8 shall consider, if applicable, an alien’s use of
9 fraudulent documents to enter the United
10 States, unless the alien arrived in the United
11 States by air, sea, or land directly from the ap-
12 plicant’s home country without transiting
13 through any other country.

14 “(B) FAVORABLE EXERCISE OF DISCRE-
15 TION NOT PERMITTED.—Except as provided in
16 subparagraph (C), the Attorney General or Sec-
17 retary of Homeland Security shall not favorably
18 exercise discretion under this section for any
19 alien who—

20 “(i) has accrued more than one year
21 of unlawful presence in the United States,
22 as defined in sections 212(a)(9)(B)(ii) and
23 (iii), prior to filing an application for asy-
24 lum;

1 “(ii) at the time the asylum applica-
2 tion is filed with the immigration court or
3 is referred from the Department of Home-
4 land Security, has—

5 “(I) failed to timely file (or time-
6 ly file a request for an extension of
7 time to file) any required Federal,
8 State, or local income tax returns;

9 “(II) failed to satisfy any out-
10 standing Federal, State, or local tax
11 obligations; or

12 “(III) income that would result
13 in tax liability under section 1 of the
14 Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and
15 that was not reported to the Internal
16 Revenue Service;

17 “(iii) has had two or more prior asy-
18 lum applications denied for any reason;

19 “(iv) has withdrawn a prior asylum
20 application with prejudice or been found to
21 have abandoned a prior asylum application;

22 “(v) failed to attend an interview re-
23 garding his or her asylum application with
24 the Department of Homeland Security, un-

1 less the alien shows by a preponderance of
2 the evidence that—

3 “(I) exceptional circumstances
4 prevented the alien from attending the
5 interview; or

6 “(II) the interview notice was not
7 mailed to the last address provided by
8 the alien or the alien’s representative
9 and neither the alien nor the alien’s
10 representative received notice of the
11 interview; or

12 “(vi) was subject to a final order of
13 removal, deportation, or exclusion and did
14 not file a motion to reopen to seek asylum
15 based on changed country conditions with-
16 in one year of the change in country condi-
17 tions.

18 “(C) EXCEPTIONS.—If one or more of the
19 adverse discretionary factors set forth in sub-
20 paragraph (B) are present, the Attorney Gen-
21 eral or the Secretary, may, notwithstanding
22 such subparagraph (B), favorably exercise dis-
23 cretion under section 208—

1 “(i) in extraordinary circumstances,
2 such as those involving national security or
3 foreign policy considerations; or

4 “(ii) if the alien, by clear and con-
5 vincing evidence, demonstrates that the de-
6 nial of the application for asylum would re-
7 sult in exceptional and extremely unusual
8 hardship to the alien.

9 “(5) LIMITATION.—If the Secretary or the At-
10 torney General determines that an alien fails to sat-
11 isfy the requirement under paragraph (1), the alien
12 may not be granted asylum based on membership in
13 a particular social group, and may not appeal the
14 determination of the Secretary or Attorney General,
15 as applicable. A determination under this paragraph
16 shall not serve as the basis for any motion to reopen
17 or reconsider an application for asylum or with-
18 holding of removal for any reason, including a claim
19 of ineffective assistance of counsel, unless the alien
20 complies with the procedural requirements for such
21 a motion and demonstrates that counsel’s failure to
22 define, or provide a basis for defining, a formulation
23 of a particular social group was both not a strategic
24 choice and constituted egregious conduct.

1 “(6) STEREOTYPES.—Evidence offered in sup-
2 port of an application for asylum that promotes cul-
3 tural stereotypes about a country, its inhabitants, or
4 an alleged persecutor, including stereotypes based on
5 race, religion, nationality, or gender, shall not be ad-
6 missible in adjudicating that application, except that
7 evidence that an alleged persecutor holds
8 stereotypical views of the applicant shall be admis-
9 sible.

10 “(7) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

11 “(A) The term ‘membership in a particular
12 social group’ means membership in a group
13 that is—

14 “(i) composed of members who share
15 a common immutable characteristic;

16 “(ii) defined with particularity; and

17 “(iii) socially distinct within the soci-
18 ety in question.

19 “(B) The term ‘political opinion’ means an
20 ideal or conviction in support of the furtherance
21 of a discrete cause related to political control of
22 a state or a unit thereof.

23 “(C) The term ‘persecution’ means the in-
24 fliction of a severe level of harm constituting an
25 exigent threat by the government of a country

1 or by persons or an organization that the gov-
2 ernment was unable or unwilling to control.
3 Such term does not include—

4 “(i) generalized harm or violence that
5 arises out of civil, criminal, or military
6 strife in a country;

7 “(ii) all treatment that the United
8 States regards as unfair, offensive, unjust,
9 unlawful, or unconstitutional;

10 “(iii) intermittent harassment, includ-
11 ing brief detentions;

12 “(iv) threats with no actual effort to
13 carry out the threats, except that particu-
14 larized threats of severe harm of an imme-
15 diate and menacing nature made by an
16 identified entity may constitute persecu-
17 tion; or

18 “(v) non-severe economic harm or
19 property damage.”.

20 **SEC. 107. FIRM RESETTLEMENT.**

21 Section 208 of the Immigration and Nationality Act
22 (8 U.S.C. 1158), as amended by this Act, is further
23 amended by adding at the end the following:

24 “(g) FIRM RESETTLEMENT.—In determining wheth-
25 er an alien was firmly resettled in another country prior

1 to arriving in the United States under subsection
2 (b)(2)(A)(xiv), the following shall apply:

3 “(1) IN GENERAL.—An alien shall be consid-
4 ered to have firmly resettled in another country if,
5 after the events giving rise to the alien’s asylum
6 claim—

7 “(A) the alien resided in a country through
8 which the alien transited prior to arriving in or
9 entering the United States and—

10 “(i) received or was eligible for any
11 permanent legal immigration status in that
12 country;

13 “(ii) resided in such a country with
14 any non-permanent but indefinitely renew-
15 able legal immigration status (including
16 asylee, refugee, or similar status, but ex-
17 cluding status of a tourist); or

18 “(iii) resided in such a country and
19 could have applied for and obtained an im-
20 migration status described in clause (ii);

21 “(B) the alien physically resided volun-
22 tarily, and without continuing to suffer persecu-
23 tion or torture, in any one country for one year
24 or more after departing his country of nation-
25 ality or last habitual residence and prior to ar-

1 rival in or entry into the United States, except
2 for any time spent in Mexico by an alien who
3 is not a native or citizen of Mexico solely as a
4 direct result of being returned to Mexico pursu-
5 ant to section 235(b)(3) or of being subject to
6 metering; or

7 “(C) the alien is a citizen of a country
8 other than the country in which the alien al-
9 leges a fear of persecution, or was a citizen of
10 such a country in the case of an alien who re-
11 nounces such citizenship, and the alien was
12 present in that country after departing his
13 country of nationality or last habitual residence
14 and prior to arrival in or entry into the United
15 States.

16 “(2) BURDEN OF PROOF.—If an immigration
17 judge determines that an alien has firmly resettled
18 in another country under paragraph (1), the alien
19 shall bear the burden of proving the bar does not
20 apply.

21 “(3) FIRM RESETTLEMENT OF PARENT.—An
22 alien shall be presumed to have been firmly resettled
23 in another country if the alien’s parent was firmly
24 resettled in another country, the parent’s resettle-
25 ment occurred before the alien turned 18 years of

1 age, and the alien resided with such parent at the
 2 time of the firm resettlement, unless the alien estab-
 3 lishes that he or she could not have derived any per-
 4 manent legal immigration status or any non-perma-
 5 nent but indefinitely renewable legal immigration
 6 status (including asylum, refugee, or similar status,
 7 but excluding status of a tourist) from the alien's
 8 parent.”.

9 **SEC. 108. NOTICE CONCERNING FRIVOLOUS ASYLUM AP-**
 10 **PLICATIONS.**

11 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 208(d)(4) of the Immi-
 12 gration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1158(d)(4)) is
 13 amended—

14 (1) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A),
 15 by inserting “the Secretary of Homeland Security
 16 or” before “the Attorney General”;

17 (2) in subparagraph (A), by striking “and of
 18 the consequences, under paragraph (6), of knowingly
 19 filing a frivolous application for asylum; and” and
 20 inserting a semicolon;

21 (3) in subparagraph (B), by striking the period
 22 and inserting “; and”; and

23 (4) by adding at the end the following:

24 “(C) ensure that a written warning ap-
 25 pears on the asylum application advising the

1 alien of the consequences of filing a frivolous
2 application and serving as notice to the alien of
3 the consequence of filing a frivolous applica-
4 tion.”.

5 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 208(d)(6)
6 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C.
7 1158(d)(6)) is amended by striking “If the” and all that
8 follows and inserting:

9 “(A) IN GENERAL.—If the Secretary of
10 Homeland Security or the Attorney General de-
11 termines that an alien has knowingly made a
12 frivolous application for asylum and the alien
13 has received the notice under paragraph (4),
14 the alien shall be permanently ineligible for any
15 benefits under this chapter, effective as the date
16 of the final determination of such an applica-
17 tion.

18 “(B) CRITERIA.—An application is frivo-
19 lous if the Secretary of Homeland Security or
20 the Attorney General determines that the appli-
21 cation—

22 “(i) is premised on any material ele-
23 ments that are knowingly fabricated; or

24 “(ii) is so insufficient in substance
25 that it is clear that the applicant know-

1 ingly filed the application solely or in part
2 to delay removal from the United States,
3 to seek employment authorization as an
4 applicant for asylum pursuant to regula-
5 tions issued pursuant to paragraph (2), or
6 to seek issuance of a Notice to Appear to
7 pursue Cancellation of Removal under sec-
8 tion 240A(b).

9 “(C) SUFFICIENT OPPORTUNITY TO CLAR-
10 IFY.—In determining that an application is friv-
11 olous, the Secretary or the Attorney General
12 must be satisfied that the applicant, during the
13 course of the proceedings, has had sufficient op-
14 portunity to clarify any discrepancies or implau-
15 sible aspects of the claim.

16 “(D) WITHHOLDING OF REMOVAL NOT
17 PRECLUDED.—A finding under this section that
18 an alien filed a frivolous asylum application
19 shall not preclude the alien from seeking with-
20 holding of removal under section 241(b)(3) or
21 protection pursuant to the Convention Against
22 Torture.”.

23 **SEC. 109. TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS.**

24 Section 208 of the Immigration and Nationality Act
25 (8 U.S.C. 1158) is amended—

1 (1) in subsection (a)—

2 (A) in paragraph (2)(D), by inserting
3 “Secretary of Homeland Security or the” before
4 “Attorney General”; and

5 (B) in paragraph (3), by inserting “Sec-
6 retary of Homeland Security or the” before
7 “Attorney General”;

8 (2) in subsection (c)—

9 (A) in paragraph (1), by striking “Attor-
10 ney General” each place such term appears and
11 inserting “Secretary of Homeland Security”;

12 (B) in paragraph (2), in the matter pre-
13 ceding subparagraph (A), by inserting “Sec-
14 retary of Homeland Security or the” before
15 “Attorney General”; and

16 (C) in paragraph (3), by inserting “Sec-
17 retary of Homeland Security or the” before
18 “Attorney General”; and

19 (3) in subsection (d)—

20 (A) in paragraph (1), by inserting “Sec-
21 retary of Homeland Security or the” before
22 “Attorney General” each place such term ap-
23 pears; and

24 (B) in paragraph (5)—

- 1 (i) in subparagraph (A), by striking
2 “Attorney General” and inserting “Sec-
3 retary of Homeland Security”; and
4 (ii) in subparagraph (B), by inserting
5 “Secretary of Homeland Security or the”
6 before “Attorney General”.

7 **SEC. 110. REQUIREMENT FOR PROCEDURES RELATING TO**
8 **CERTAIN ASYLUM APPLICATIONS.**

9 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 30 days after the
10 date of the enactment of this Act, the Attorney General
11 shall establish procedures to expedite the adjudication of
12 asylum applications for aliens—

13 (1) who are subject to removal proceedings
14 under section 240 of the Immigration and Nation-
15 ality Act (8 U.S.C. 1229a); and

16 (2) who are nationals of a Western Hemisphere
17 country sanctioned by the United States, as de-
18 scribed in subsection (b), as of January 1, 2023.

19 (b) WESTERN HEMISPHERE COUNTRY SANCTIONED
20 BY THE UNITED STATES DESCRIBED.—Subsection (a)
21 shall apply only to an asylum application filed by an alien
22 who is a national of a Western Hemisphere country sub-
23 ject to sanctions pursuant to—

1 (1) the Cuban Liberty and Democratic Soli-
 2 darity (LIBERTAD) Act of 1996 (22 U.S.C. 6021
 3 note);

4 (2) the Reinforcing Nicaragua’s Adherence to
 5 Conditions for Electoral Reform Act of 2021 or the
 6 RENACER Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 note); or

7 (3) Executive Order 13692 (80 Fed. Reg.
 8 12747; declaring a national emergency with respect
 9 to the situation in Venezuela).

10 (c) APPLICABILITY.—This section shall only apply to
 11 an alien who files an application for asylum after the date
 12 of the enactment of this Act.

13 **TITLE II—BORDER SAFETY AND** 14 **MIGRANT PROTECTION**

15 **SEC. 201. INSPECTION OF APPLICANTS FOR ADMISSION.**

16 Section 235 of the Immigration and Nationality Act
 17 (8 U.S.C. 1225) is amended—

18 (1) in subsection (b)—

19 (A) in paragraph (1)—

20 (i) in subparagraph (A)—

21 (I) in clauses (i) and (ii), by
 22 striking “section 212(a)(6)(C)” in-
 23 serting “subparagraph (A) or (C) of
 24 section 212(a)(6)”; and

1 (II) by adding at the end the fol-
2 lowing:

3 “(iv) INELIGIBILITY FOR PAROLE.—
4 An alien described in clause (i) or (ii) shall
5 not be eligible for parole except as ex-
6 pressly authorized pursuant to section
7 212(d)(5), or for parole or release pursu-
8 ant to section 236(a).”; and

9 (ii) in subparagraph (B)—

10 (I) in clause (ii), by striking
11 “asylum.” and inserting “asylum and
12 shall not be released (including pursu-
13 ant to parole or release pursuant to
14 section 236(a) but excluding as ex-
15 pressly authorized pursuant to section
16 212(d)(5)) other than to be removed
17 or returned to a country as described
18 in paragraph (3).”; and

19 (II) in clause (iii)(IV)—

20 (aa) in the header by strik-
21 ing “DETENTION” and inserting
22 “DETENTION, RETURN, OR RE-
23 MOVAL”; and

24 (bb) by adding at the end
25 the following: “The alien shall

1 not be released (including pursu-
2 ant to parole or release pursuant
3 to section 236(a) but excluding
4 as expressly authorized pursuant
5 to section 212(d)(5)) other than
6 to be removed or returned to a
7 country as described in para-
8 graph (3).”;

9 (B) in paragraph (2)—

10 (i) in subparagraph (A)—

11 (I) by striking “Subject to sub-
12 paragraphs (B) and (C),” and insert-
13 ing “Subject to subparagraph (B) and
14 paragraph (3),”; and

15 (II) by adding at the end the fol-
16 lowing: “The alien shall not be re-
17 leased (including pursuant to parole
18 or release pursuant to section 236(a)
19 but excluding as expressly authorized
20 pursuant to section 212(d)(5)) other
21 than to be removed or returned to a
22 country as described in paragraph
23 (3).”; and

24 (ii) by striking subparagraph (C);

1 (C) by redesignating paragraph (3) and
2 (4) as paragraphs (4) and (5), respectively;

3 (D) by inserting after paragraph (2) the
4 following:

5 “(3) RETURN TO FOREIGN TERRITORY CONTIG-
6 UOUS TO THE UNITED STATES.—

7 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of
8 Homeland Security may return to a foreign ter-
9 ritory contiguous to the United States any alien
10 arriving on land from that territory (whether or
11 not at a designated port of entry) pending a
12 proceeding under section 240 or review of a de-
13 termination under subsection (b)(1)(B)(iii)(III).

14 “(B) MANDATORY RETURN.—If at any
15 time the Secretary of Homeland Security can-
16 not—

17 “(i) comply with its obligations to de-
18 tain an alien as required under clauses (ii)
19 and (iii)(IV) of subsection (b)(1)(B) and
20 subsection (b)(2)(A); or

21 “(ii) remove an alien to a country de-
22 scribed in section 208(a)(2)(A),
23 the Secretary of Homeland Security shall, with-
24 out exception, including pursuant to parole or
25 release pursuant to section 236(a) but exclud-

1 ing as expressly authorized pursuant to section
2 212(d)(5), return to a foreign territory contig-
3 uous to the United States any alien arriving on
4 land from that territory (whether or not at a
5 designated port of entry) pending a proceeding
6 under section 240 or review of a determination
7 under subsection (b)(1)(B)(iii)(III).”; and

8 (E) in paragraph (4), as redesignated, by
9 striking “(1) or (2)” and inserting “(1), (2), or
10 (3)”; and

11 (2) by adding at the end the following:

12 “(e) AUTHORITY TO PROHIBIT INTRODUCTION OF
13 CERTAIN ALIENS.—If the Secretary of Homeland Security
14 determines, in his discretion, that the prohibition of the
15 introduction of aliens who are inadmissible under subpara-
16 graph (A) or (C) of section 212(a)(6) or under section
17 212(a)(7) at an international land or maritime border of
18 the United States is necessary to achieve operational con-
19 trol (as defined in section 2 of the Secure Fence Act of
20 2006 (8 U.S.C. 1701 note)) of such border, the Secretary
21 may prohibit, in whole or in part, the introduction of such
22 aliens at such border for such period of time as the Sec-
23 retary determines is necessary for such purpose.”.

TITLE III—PROTECTION OF CHILDREN

SEC. 301. REPATRIATION OF UNACCOMPANIED ALIEN CHILDREN.

Section 235 of the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008 (8 U.S.C. 1232) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in paragraph (2)—

(i) by amending the heading to read as follows: “RULES FOR UNACCOMPANIED ALIEN CHILDREN.—”;

(ii) in subparagraph (A)—

(I) in the matter preceding clause (i), by striking “who is a national or habitual resident of a country that is contiguous with the United States”;

(II) in clause (i), by inserting “and” at the end;

(III) in clause (ii), by striking “; and” and inserting a period; and

(IV) by striking clause (iii);

(iii) in subparagraph (B)—

(I) in the matter preceding clause (i), by striking “(8 U.S.C. 1101 et

1 seq.) may—” and inserting “(8
2 U.S.C. 1101 et seq.)—”;

3 (II) in clause (i), by inserting be-
4 fore “permit such child to withdraw”
5 the following: “may”; and

6 (III) in clause (ii), by inserting
7 before “return such child” the fol-
8 lowing: “shall”; and

9 (iv) in subparagraph (C)—

10 (I) by amending the heading to
11 read as follows: “AGREEMENTS WITH
12 FOREIGN COUNTRIES.—”; and

13 (II) in the matter preceding
14 clause (i), by striking “The Secretary
15 of State shall negotiate agreements
16 between the United States and coun-
17 tries contiguous to the United States”
18 and inserting “The Secretary of State
19 may negotiate agreements between the
20 United States and any foreign country
21 that the Secretary determines appro-
22 priate”; and

23 (B) in paragraph (5)(D)—

24 (i) in the matter preceding clause (i),
25 by striking “, except for an unaccompanied

alien child from a contiguous country subject to exceptions under subsection (a)(2),” and inserting “who does not meet the criteria listed in paragraph (2)(A)”;

(ii) in clause (i), by inserting before the semicolon at the end the following: “, which shall include a hearing before an immigration judge not later than 14 days after being screened under paragraph (4)”;

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) in paragraph (2)—

(i) in subparagraph (A), by inserting before the semicolon the following: “believed not to meet the criteria listed in subsection (a)(2)(A)”;

(ii) in subparagraph (B), by inserting before the period the following: “and does not meet the criteria listed in subsection (a)(2)(A)”;

(B) in paragraph (3), by striking “an unaccompanied alien child in custody shall” and all that follows, and inserting the following: “an unaccompanied alien child in custody—

“(A) in the case of a child who does not meet the criteria listed in subsection (a)(2)(A),

1 shall transfer the custody of such child to the
2 Secretary of Health and Human Services not
3 later than 30 days after determining that such
4 child is an unaccompanied alien child who does
5 not meet such criteria; or

6 “(B) in the case of a child who meets the
7 criteria listed in subsection (a)(2)(A), may
8 transfer the custody of such child to the Sec-
9 retary of Health and Human Services after de-
10 termining that such child is an unaccompanied
11 alien child who meets such criteria.”; and

12 (3) in subsection (c)—

13 (A) in paragraph (3)—

14 (i) by inserting at the end the fol-
15 lowing:

16 “(D) INFORMATION ABOUT INDIVIDUALS
17 WITH WHOM CHILDREN ARE PLACED.—

18 “(i) INFORMATION TO BE PROVIDED
19 TO HOMELAND SECURITY.—Before placing
20 a child with an individual, the Secretary of
21 Health and Human Services shall provide
22 to the Secretary of Homeland Security, re-
23 garding the individual with whom the child
24 will be placed and all adult residents of

1 such individual's household, information
2 on—

3 “(I) the name of the individual;

4 “(II) the social security number
5 of the individual;

6 “(III) the date of birth of the in-
7 dividual;

8 “(IV) the location of the individ-
9 ual's residence where the child will be
10 placed;

11 “(V) the immigration status of
12 the individual, if known; and

13 “(VI) contact information for the
14 individual.

15 “(ii) ACTIVITIES OF THE SECRETARY
16 OF HOMELAND SECURITY.—Not later than
17 30 days after receiving the information
18 listed in clause (i), the Secretary of Home-
19 land Security, upon determining that an
20 individual with whom a child is placed is
21 unlawfully present in the United States
22 and not in removal proceedings pursuant
23 to chapter 4 of title II of the Immigration
24 and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1221 et

1 seq.), shall initiate such removal pro-
 2 ceedings.”; and

3 (B) in paragraph (5)—

4 (i) by inserting after “to the greatest
 5 extent practicable” the following: “(at no
 6 expense to the Government)”; and

7 (ii) by striking “have counsel to rep-
 8 resent them” and inserting “have access to
 9 counsel to represent them”.

10 **SEC. 302. SPECIAL IMMIGRANT JUVENILE STATUS FOR IM-**
 11 **MIGRANTS UNABLE TO REUNITE WITH EI-**
 12 **THER PARENT.**

13 Section 101(a)(27)(J) of the Immigration and Na-
 14 tionality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(27)(J)) is amended—

15 (1) in clause (i), by striking “, and whose reuni-
 16 fication with 1 or both of the immigrant’s parents
 17 is not viable due to abuse, neglect, abandonment, or
 18 a similar basis found under State law”; and

19 (2) in clause (iii)—

20 (A) in subclause (I), by striking “and” at
 21 the end;

22 (B) in subclause (II), by inserting “and”
 23 after the semicolon; and

24 (C) by adding at the end the following:

1 “(III) an alien may not be grant-
2 ed special immigrant status under this
3 subparagraph if the alien’s reunifica-
4 tion with any one parent or legal
5 guardian is not precluded by abuse,
6 neglect, abandonment, or any similar
7 cause under State law;”.

8 **SEC. 303. RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.**

9 Nothing in this title shall be construed to limit the
10 following procedures or practices relating to an unaccom-
11 panied alien child (as defined in section 462(g)(2) of the
12 Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 279(g)(2))):

13 (1) Screening of such a child for a credible fear
14 of return to his or her country of origin.

15 (2) Screening of such a child to determine
16 whether he or she was a victim of trafficking.

17 (3) Department of Health and Human Services
18 policy in effect on the date of the enactment of this
19 Act requiring a home study for such a child if he or
20 she is under 12 years of age.

TITLE IV—ENSURING UNITED FAMILIES AT THE BORDER

SEC. 401. CLARIFICATION OF STANDARDS FOR FAMILY DETENTION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 235 of the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008 (8 U.S.C. 1232) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(j) CONSTRUCTION.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, judicial determination, consent decree, or settlement agreement, the detention of any alien child who is not an unaccompanied alien child shall be governed by sections 217, 235, 236, and 241 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1187, 1225, 1226, and 1231). There is no presumption that an alien child who is not an unaccompanied alien child should not be detained.

“(2) USE OF FAMILY RESIDENTIAL CENTERS.—

The Secretary of Homeland Security may detain family units of aliens at family residential centers pending a decision on whether the aliens are to be removed from the United States and, if such aliens are ordered removed from the United States, until such aliens are removed.

1 “(3) FAMILY DETENTION.—The Secretary of
2 Homeland Security shall—

3 “(A) maintain the care and custody of an
4 alien, during the period during which the
5 charges described in clause (i) are pending,
6 who—

7 “(i) is charged only with a mis-
8 demeanor offense under section 275(a) of
9 the Immigration and Nationality Act (8
10 U.S.C. 1325(a)); and

11 “(ii) entered the United States with
12 the alien’s child who has not attained 18
13 years of age; and

14 “(B) detain the alien with the alien’s child.

15 “(4) FAMILY RESIDENTIAL CENTER DE-
16 FINED.—In this section, the term ‘family residential
17 center’ means a facility used by the Secretary of
18 Homeland Security to detain family units of aliens
19 (including alien children who are not unaccompanied
20 alien children) who are encountered or apprehended
21 by the Secretary.”.

22 (b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-
23 gress that the amendments in this section to section 235
24 of the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection
25 Reauthorization Act of 2008 (8 U.S.C. 1232) are intended

1 to satisfy the requirements of the Settlement Agreement
 2 in *Flores v. Meese*, No. 85–4544 (C.D. Cal), as approved
 3 by the court on January 28, 1997, with respect to its in-
 4 terpretation in *Flores v. Johnson*, 212 F. Supp. 3d 864
 5 (C.D. Cal. 2015), that the agreement applies to accom-
 6 panied minors.

7 (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by
 8 subsection (a) shall take effect on the date of the enact-
 9 ment of this Act and shall apply to all actions that occur
 10 before, on, or after such date.

11 (d) PREEMPTION OF STATE LICENSING REQUIRE-
 12 MENTS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, ju-
 13 dicial determination, consent decree, or settlement agree-
 14 ment, no State may require that an immigration detention
 15 facility used to detain children who have not attained 18
 16 years of age, or families consisting of one or more of such
 17 children and the parents or legal guardians of such chil-
 18 dren, that is located in that State, be licensed by the State
 19 or any political subdivision thereof.

20 **TITLE V—VISA OVERSTAYS**

21 **PENALTIES**

22 **SEC. 501. EXPANDED PENALTIES FOR ILLEGAL ENTRY OR**

23 **PRESENCE.**

24 Section 275 of the Immigration and Nationality Act
 25 (8 U.S.C. 1325) is amended—

1 (1) in subsection (a) by inserting after “for a
2 subsequent commission of any such offense” the fol-
3 lowing: “or if the alien was previously convicted of
4 an offense under subsection (e)(2)(A)”;

5 (2) in subsection (b)—

6 (A) in paragraph (1), by striking “at least
7 \$50 and not more than \$250” and inserting
8 “not less than \$500 and not more than
9 \$1,000”; and

10 (B) in paragraph (2), by inserting after
11 “in the case of an alien who has been previously
12 subject to a civil penalty under this subsection”
13 the following: “or subsection (e)(2)(B)”;

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

15 “(e) VISA OVERSTAYS.—

16 “(1) IN GENERAL.—An alien who was admitted
17 as a nonimmigrant has violated this paragraph if the
18 alien, for an aggregate of 10 days or more, has
19 failed—

20 “(A) to maintain the nonimmigrant status
21 in which the alien was admitted, or to which it
22 was changed under section 248, including com-
23 plying with the period of stay authorized by the
24 Secretary of Homeland Security in connection
25 with such status; or

1 “(B) to comply otherwise with the condi-
2 tions of such nonimmigrant status.

3 “(2) PENALTIES.—An alien who has violated
4 paragraph (1)—

5 “(A) shall—

6 “(i) for the first commission of such a
7 violation, be fined under title 18, United
8 States Code, or imprisoned not more than
9 6 months, or both; and

10 “(ii) for a subsequent commission of
11 such a violation, or if the alien was pre-
12 viously convicted of an offense under sub-
13 section (a), be fined under such title 18, or
14 imprisoned not more than 2 years, or both;
15 and

16 “(B) in addition to, and not in lieu of, any
17 penalty under subparagraph (A) and any other
18 criminal or civil penalties that may be imposed,
19 shall be subject to a civil penalty of—

20 “(i) not less than \$500 and not more
21 than \$1,000 for each violation; or

22 “(ii) twice the amount specified in
23 clause (i), in the case of an alien who has
24 been previously subject to a civil penalty

1 under this subparagraph or subsection
2 (b).”.

3 **TITLE VI—IMMIGRATION**
4 **PAROLE REFORM**

5 **SEC. 601. IMMIGRATION PAROLE REFORM.**

6 Section 212(d)(5) of the Immigration and Nationality
7 Act (8 U.S.C. 1182(d)(5)) is amended to read as follows:
8 “(5)(A) Except as provided in subparagraphs (B)
9 and (C) and section 214(f), the Secretary of Homeland
10 Security, in the discretion of the Secretary, may tempo-
11 rarily parole into the United States any alien applying for
12 admission to the United States who is not present in the
13 United States, under such conditions as the Secretary may
14 prescribe, on a case-by-case basis, and not according to
15 eligibility criteria describing an entire class of potential
16 parole recipients, for urgent humanitarian reasons or sig-
17 nificant public benefit. Parole granted under this subpara-
18 graph may not be regarded as an admission of the alien.
19 When the purposes of such parole have been served in the
20 opinion of the Secretary, the alien shall immediately re-
21 turn or be returned to the custody from which the alien
22 was paroled. After such return, the case of the alien shall
23 be dealt with in the same manner as the case of any other
24 applicant for admission to the United States.

1 “(B) The Secretary of Homeland Security may grant
2 parole to any alien who—

3 “(i) is present in the United States without
4 lawful immigration status;

5 “(ii) is the beneficiary of an approved petition
6 under section 203(a);

7 “(iii) is not otherwise inadmissible or remov-
8 able; and

9 “(iv) is the spouse or child of a member of the
10 Armed Forces serving on active duty.

11 “(C) The Secretary of Homeland Security may grant
12 parole to any alien—

13 “(i) who is a national of the Republic of Cuba
14 and is living in the Republic of Cuba;

15 “(ii) who is the beneficiary of an approved peti-
16 tion under section 203(a);

17 “(iii) for whom an immigrant visa is not imme-
18 diately available;

19 “(iv) who meets all eligibility requirements for
20 an immigrant visa;

21 “(v) who is not otherwise inadmissible; and

22 “(vi) who is receiving a grant of parole in fur-
23 therance of the commitment of the United States to
24 the minimum level of annual legal migration of
25 Cuban nationals to the United States specified in

1 the U.S.-Cuba Joint Communiqué on Migration,
2 done at New York September 9, 1994, and re-
3 affirmed in the Cuba-United States: Joint Statement
4 on Normalization of Migration, Building on the
5 Agreement of September 9, 1994, done at New York
6 May 2, 1995.

7 “(D) The Secretary of Homeland Security may grant
8 parole to an alien who is returned to a contiguous country
9 under section 235(b)(3) to allow the alien to attend the
10 alien’s immigration hearing. The grant of parole shall not
11 exceed the time required for the alien to be escorted to,
12 and attend, the alien’s immigration hearing scheduled on
13 the same calendar day as the grant, and to immediately
14 thereafter be escorted back to the contiguous country. A
15 grant of parole under this subparagraph shall not be con-
16 sidered for purposes of determining whether the alien is
17 inadmissible under this Act.

18 “(E) For purposes of determining an alien’s eligi-
19 bility for parole under subparagraph (A), an urgent hu-
20 manitarian reason shall be limited to circumstances in
21 which the alien establishes that—

22 “(i)(I) the alien has a medical emergency; and
23 “(II)(aa) the alien cannot obtain necessary
24 treatment in the foreign state in which the alien is
25 residing; or

1 “(bb) the medical emergency is life-threatening
2 and there is insufficient time for the alien to be ad-
3 mitted to the United States through the normal visa
4 process;

5 “(ii) the alien is the parent or legal guardian of
6 an alien described in clause (i) and the alien de-
7 scribed in clause (i) is a minor;

8 “(iii) the alien is needed in the United States
9 in order to donate an organ or other tissue for
10 transplant and there is insufficient time for the alien
11 to be admitted to the United States through the nor-
12 mal visa process;

13 “(iv) the alien has a close family member in the
14 United States whose death is imminent and the alien
15 could not arrive in the United States in time to see
16 such family member alive if the alien were to be ad-
17 mitted to the United States through the normal visa
18 process;

19 “(v) the alien is seeking to attend the funeral
20 of a close family member and the alien could not ar-
21 rive in the United States in time to attend such fu-
22 neral if the alien were to be admitted to the United
23 States through the normal visa process;

24 “(vi) the alien is an adopted child with an ur-
25 gent medical condition who is in the legal custody of

1 the petitioner for a final adoption-related visa and
2 whose medical treatment is required before the ex-
3 pected award of a final adoption-related visa; or

4 “(vii) the alien is a lawful applicant for adjust-
5 ment of status under section 245 and is returning
6 to the United States after temporary travel abroad.

7 “(F) For purposes of determining an alien’s eligi-
8 bility for parole under subparagraph (A), a significant
9 public benefit may be determined to result from the parole
10 of an alien only if—

11 “(i) the alien has assisted (or will assist, wheth-
12 er knowingly or not) the United States Government
13 in a law enforcement matter;

14 “(ii) the alien’s presence is required by the Gov-
15 ernment in furtherance of such law enforcement
16 matter; and

17 “(iii) the alien is inadmissible, does not satisfy
18 the eligibility requirements for admission as a non-
19 immigrant, or there is insufficient time for the alien
20 to be admitted to the United States through the nor-
21 mal visa process.

22 “(G) For purposes of determining an alien’s eligi-
23 bility for parole under subparagraph (A), the term ‘case-
24 by-case basis’ means that the facts in each individual case
25 are considered and parole is not granted based on mem-

1 bership in a defined class of aliens to be granted parole.
2 The fact that aliens are considered for or granted parole
3 one-by-one and not as a group is not sufficient to establish
4 that the parole decision is made on a ‘case-by-case basis’.

5 “(H) The Secretary of Homeland Security may not
6 use the parole authority under this paragraph to parole
7 an alien into the United States for any reason or purpose
8 other than those described in subparagraphs (B), (C), (D),
9 (E), and (F).

10 “(I) An alien granted parole may not accept employ-
11 ment, except that an alien granted parole pursuant to sub-
12 paragraph (B) or (C) is authorized to accept employment
13 for the duration of the parole, as evidenced by an employ-
14 ment authorization document issued by the Secretary of
15 Homeland Security.

16 “(J) Parole granted after a departure from the
17 United States shall not be regarded as an admission of
18 the alien. An alien granted parole, whether as an initial
19 grant of parole or parole upon reentry into the United
20 States, is not eligible to adjust status to lawful permanent
21 residence or for any other immigration benefit if the immi-
22 gration status the alien had at the time of departure did
23 not authorize the alien to adjust status or to be eligible
24 for such benefit.

1 “(K)(i) Except as provided in clauses (ii) and (iii),
2 parole shall be granted to an alien under this paragraph
3 for the shorter of—

4 “(I) a period of sufficient length to accomplish
5 the activity described in subparagraph (D), (E), or
6 (F) for which the alien was granted parole; or

7 “(II) 1 year.

8 “(ii) Grants of parole pursuant to subparagraph (A)
9 may be extended once, in the discretion of the Secretary,
10 for an additional period that is the shorter of—

11 “(I) the period that is necessary to accomplish
12 the activity described in subparagraph (E) or (F) for
13 which the alien was granted parole; or

14 “(II) 1 year.

15 “(iii) Aliens who have a pending application to adjust
16 status to permanent residence under section 245 may re-
17 quest extensions of parole under this paragraph, in 1-year
18 increments, until the application for adjustment has been
19 adjudicated. Such parole shall terminate immediately upon
20 the denial of such adjustment application.

21 “(L) Not later than 90 days after the last day of each
22 fiscal year, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall sub-
23 mit to the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate and
24 the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Rep-
25 resentatives and make available to the public, a report—

1 “(i) identifying the total number of aliens pa-
2 roled into the United States under this paragraph
3 during the previous fiscal year; and

4 “(ii) containing information and data regarding
5 all aliens paroled during such fiscal year, includ-
6 ing—

7 “(I) the duration of parole;

8 “(II) the type of parole; and

9 “(III) the current status of the aliens so
10 paroled.”.

11 **SEC. 602. IMPLEMENTATION.**

12 (a) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subsection
13 (b), this title and the amendments made by this title shall
14 take effect on the date that is 30 days after the date of
15 the enactment of this title.

16 (b) EXCEPTIONS.—Notwithstanding subsection (a),
17 each of the following exceptions apply:

18 (1) Any application for parole or advance parole
19 filed by an alien before the date of the enactment of
20 this title shall be adjudicated under the law that was
21 in effect on the date on which the application was
22 properly filed and any approved advance parole shall
23 remain valid under the law that was in effect on the
24 date on which the advance parole was approved.

1 (2) Section 212(d)(5)(J) of the Immigration
2 and Nationality Act, as added by this Act, shall take
3 effect on the date of the enactment of this title.

4 (3) Aliens who were paroled into the United
5 States pursuant to section 212(d)(5)(A) of the Im-
6 migration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C.
7 1182(d)(5)(A)) before January 1, 2023, shall con-
8 tinue to be subject to the terms of parole that were
9 in effect on the date on which their respective parole
10 was approved.

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