AN ACT

To amend section 301 of the Immigration and Nationality Act.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section 301 (b) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1401) is amended to read as follows:

"(b) Any person who is a national and citizen of the United States under paragraph (7) of subsection (a) shall lose his nationality and citizenship unless—(1) he shall come to the United States and be continuously physically present therein for a period of not less than two years between the ages of fourteen years and twenty-eight years; or (2) the alien parent is naturalized while the child is under the age of eighteen years and the child begins to reside permanently in the United States while under the age of eighteen years. In the administration of this subsection absences from the United States of less than sixty days in the aggregate during the period for which continuous physical presence in the United States is required shall not break the continuity of such physical presence."

Sec. 2. Section 16 of the Act of September 11, 1957, is hereby repealed.

Sec. 3. Section 301 of the Immigration and Nationality Act is amended by adding at the end thereof a new subsection (d) to read as follows:

"(d) Nothing contained in subsection (b), as amended, shall be construed to alter or affect the citizenship of any person who has come to the United States prior to the effective date of this subsection and who, whether before or after the effective date of this subsection, immediately following such coming complies or shall comply with the physical presence requirements for retention of citizenship specified in subsection (b) prior to its amendment and the repeal of section 16 of the Act of September 11, 1957."

Approved October 27, 1972.