

106TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 2091

To designate the Republic of Montenegro, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, and the Republic of Albania under section 244 of the Immigration and Nationality Act in order to render nationals of these foreign states eligible for temporary protected status under such section.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 9, 1999

Mrs. BIGGERT (for herself, Mr. ENGEL, Mrs. KELLY, Mrs. WILSON, Mr. MANZULLO, Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. CROWLEY, and Ms. SCHAKOWSKY) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

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## A BILL

To designate the Republic of Montenegro, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, and the Republic of Albania under section 244 of the Immigration and Nationality Act in order to render nationals of these foreign states eligible for temporary protected status under such section.

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. FINDINGS.**

4       The Congress finds the following:

5               (1) An estimated 780,000 Kosovar refugees  
6       have been driven out of their homes to the Republic

1 of Montenegro, the Former Yugoslav Republic of  
2 Macedonia, and the Republic of Albania as a result  
3 of ethnic cleansing.

4 (2) The influx of refugees into these areas has  
5 placed a significant burden on these countries and  
6 their ability to process and house additional inhab-  
7 itants.

8 (3) The United States Immigration and Natu-  
9 ralization Service continues to process and detain  
10 immigrants for deportation to these countries, de-  
11 spite the instability created by the ethnic cleansing  
12 in Kosovo.

13 (4) The stability of the countries surrounding  
14 Kosovo and their ability to process refugees is of  
15 vital national interest to the United States and is in-  
16 tegrally related to the success of the ongoing North  
17 Atlantic Treaty Organization campaign.

18 (5) It is in the national interest of the United  
19 States to lessen the burden of burgeoning populace  
20 by granting temporary protected status to aliens  
21 from these countries.

1 **SEC. 2. DESIGNATION FOR PURPOSES OF GRANTING TEM-**  
2 **PORARY PROTECTED STATUS TO**  
3 **MONTENEGRINS, MACEDONIANS, AND ALBA-**  
4 **NIANS.**

5 (a) DESIGNATION.—

6 (1) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of section 244  
7 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C.  
8 1254a), the Republic of Montenegro, the Former  
9 Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, and the Republic  
10 of Albania shall each be treated as if it had been  
11 designated under subsection (b) of such section, sub-  
12 ject to the provisions of this section.

13 (2) PERIOD OF DESIGNATION.—Such designa-  
14 tion shall take effect on the date of the enactment  
15 of this Act and shall remain in effect until such time  
16 as the President certifies to the Congress that condi-  
17 tions are sufficiently improved to allow aliens to re-  
18 turn to these countries, or such time as the designa-  
19 tion with respect to Kosovar expires and is not ex-  
20 tended, whichever occurs later.

21 (b) ALIENS ELIGIBLE.—In applying section 244 of  
22 the Immigration and Nationality Act pursuant to the des-  
23 ignation under this Act, subject to section 244(c)(3) of  
24 such Act, an alien who is a national of the Republic of  
25 Montenegro, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia,

1 or the Republic of Albania meets the requirement of sec-  
2 tion 244(c)(1) of such Act only if—

3 (1) the alien has been continuously physically  
4 present in the United States since March 24, 1999;

5 (2) the alien is admissible as an immigrant, ex-  
6 cept as otherwise provided under section  
7 244(c)(2)(A) of such Act, and is not ineligible for  
8 temporary protected status under section  
9 244(c)(2)(B) of such Act; and

10 (3) the alien registers for temporary protected  
11 status in a manner which the Attorney General shall  
12 establish.

13 (c) CONSENT TO TRAVEL ABROAD.—The Attorney  
14 General shall give the prior consent to travel abroad de-  
15 scribed in section 244(f)(3) of the Immigration and Na-  
16 tionality Act to an alien who is granted temporary pro-  
17 tected status pursuant to the designation under this Act,  
18 if the alien establishes to the satisfaction of the Attorney  
19 General that emergency and extenuating circumstances  
20 beyond the control of the alien require the alien to depart  
21 for a brief, temporary trip abroad. An alien returning to  
22 the United States in accordance with such an authoriza-  
23 tion shall be treated the same as any other returning alien

- 1 provided temporary protected status under section 244 of
- 2 such Act.

