

112TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 6460

To modify provisions of law relating to refugee resettlement, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 20, 2012

Mr. ELLISON (for himself and Mr. PETERS) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committees on Foreign Affairs and Ways and Means, 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 modify provisions of law relating to refugee resettlement, 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 “Strengthening Refugee Resettlement 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. Security checks.

- Sec. 3. English language and work orientation training for approved refugee applicants.
- Sec. 4. Lawful permanent resident status of refugees and aliens granted asylum.
- Sec. 5. Update of reception and placement grants.
- Sec. 6. Coordination of refugee program agencies.
- Sec. 7. Case management.
- Sec. 8. Increase in cash payments.
- Sec. 9. Refugee integration grants.
- Sec. 10. Matching grant program expansion.
- Sec. 11. Domestic Emergency Refugee Resettlement Fund.
- Sec. 12. Supplemental Security Income benefits.
- Sec. 13. Making special immigrant juvenile status beneficiaries and unaccompanied children granted “U” visa protection eligible for refugee benefits.

1 **SEC. 2. SECURITY CHECKS.**

2 (a) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—Although effective secu-
 3 rity checks are needed to ensure that the United States
 4 and the Nation’s refugee admissions program are ade-
 5 quately protected, it is the sense of the Congress that the
 6 failure to properly coordinate security and non-security
 7 clearance procedures has had negative impacts on the
 8 processing of vulnerable individuals who are in need of,
 9 and eligible for, resettlement to the United States.

10 (b) REVIEW OF REFUGEE PROCESSING.—The Sec-
 11 retary of Homeland Security shall work with the heads
 12 of other relevant Federal agencies, including the Depart-
 13 ment of State, to conduct a review of refugee processing,
 14 including security clearances, with the goal of streamlining
 15 processing, consistent with maintaining thorough security
 16 vetting.

17 (c) REPORT.—Not later than 60 days after the date
 18 of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland

1 Security shall submit to the Congress a report on the re-
2 sults of the review conducted under subsection (b). The
3 report shall include a description of recommended changes
4 to streamline processing and the costs associated with any
5 unfunded needs.

6 **SEC. 3. ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND WORK ORIENTATION**
7 **TRAINING FOR APPROVED REFUGEE APPLI-**
8 **CANTS.**

9 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of State shall es-
10 tablish overseas refugee training programs to provide
11 English as a second language and work orientation train-
12 ing for refugees who have been approved for admission
13 to the United States before their departure for the United
14 States.

15 (b) DESIGN AND IMPLEMENTATION.—In designing
16 and implementing the programs referred to in subsection
17 (a), the Secretary shall consult with or use—

18 (1) nongovernmental or international organiza-
19 tions with direct ties to the United States refugee
20 resettlement program; and

21 (2) nongovernmental or international organiza-
22 tions with appropriate expertise in developing cur-
23 riculum and teaching English as a second language.

24 (c) IMPACT ON PROCESSING TIMES.—The Secretary
25 shall ensure that such training programs occur within ap-

1 plicable processing times and do not unduly delay the de-
2 parture for the United States of refugees who have been
3 approved for admission to the United States.

4 (d) TIMELINE FOR IMPLEMENTATION.—

5 (1) INITIAL IMPLEMENTATION.—Not later than
6 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act,
7 the Secretary shall ensure that such training pro-
8 grams are fully and continually operational in at
9 least 3 refugee processing regions.

10 (2) ADDITIONAL IMPLEMENTATION.—Not later
11 than 2 years after the date of the enactment of this
12 Act, the Secretary shall notify the appropriate con-
13 gressional committees that such training programs
14 are fully and consistently operational in 5 refugee
15 processing regions.

16 (e) GAO REPORT.—Not later than 2 years after the
17 date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General
18 of the United States shall conduct a study on the imple-
19 mentation of this section, including an assessment of the
20 quality of English as a second language curriculum and
21 instruction, the benefits of the work orientation and
22 English as a second language training program to refu-
23 gees, and recommendations on whether such programs
24 should be continued, broadened, or modified, and shall

1 submit to the appropriate congressional committees a re-
2 port on the findings of such study.

3 (f) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this sec-
4 tion shall be construed to require that a refugee partici-
5 pate in such a training program as a precondition for the
6 admission to the United States of such refugee.

7 **SEC. 4. LAWFUL PERMANENT RESIDENT STATUS OF REFU-**
8 **GEES AND ALIENS GRANTED ASYLUM.**

9 (a) ADMISSION OF EMERGENCY SITUATION REFU-
10 GEES.—Section 207(c) of the Immigration and Nation-
11 ality Act (8 U.S.C. 1157(c)) is amended—

12 (1) in paragraph (1)—

13 (A) by striking “Attorney General” the
14 first time it appears and inserting “Secretary of
15 Homeland Security”;

16 (B) by striking “Attorney General” each
17 additional place it appears and inserting “Sec-
18 retary”; and

19 (C) by striking “(except as otherwise pro-
20 vided under paragraph (3)) as an immigrant
21 under this Act.” and inserting “(except as pro-
22 vided under subsections (b) and (c) of section
23 209) as an immigrant under this Act. Notwith-
24 standing any numerical limitations specified in
25 this Act, any alien admitted under this para-

graph shall be regarded as lawfully admitted to the United States for permanent residence as of the date of such alien's admission to the United States.”;

(2) in paragraph (2)(A)—

(A) by striking “(except as otherwise provided under paragraph (3))” and inserting “(except as provided under subsections (b) and (c) of section 209)”;

(B) by striking the last sentence and inserting the following: “An alien admitted to the United States as a refugee may petition for his or her spouse or child to follow to join him or her in the United States at any time after such alien's admission, notwithstanding his or her treatment as a lawful permanent resident as of the date of his or her admission to the United States.”;

(3) by striking paragraph (3);

(4) by redesignating paragraph (4) as paragraph (3); and

(5) in paragraph (3), as redesignated—

(A) by striking “Attorney General” the first place it appears and inserting “Secretary of Homeland Security”; and

1 (B) by striking “Attorney General” each
2 additional place it appears and inserting “Sec-
3 retary”.

4 (b) TREATMENT OF SPOUSE AND CHILDREN.—Sec-
5 tion 208(b)(3) of such Act (8 U.S.C. 1158(b)(3)) is
6 amended—

7 (1) by redesignating subparagraph (B) as sub-
8 paragraph (E); and

9 (2) by inserting after subparagraph (A) the fol-
10 lowing:

11 “(B) PETITION.—An alien granted asylum
12 under this subsection may petition for the same
13 status to be conferred on his or her spouse or
14 child at any time after such alien is granted
15 asylum whether or not such alien has applied
16 for, or been granted, adjustment to permanent
17 resident status under section 209.

18 “(C) PERMANENT RESIDENT STATUS.—
19 Notwithstanding any numerical limitations
20 specified in this Act, a spouse or child admitted
21 to the United States as an asylee following to
22 join a spouse or parent previously granted asy-
23 lum shall be regarded as lawfully admitted to
24 the United States for permanent residence as of

1 the date of such spouse's or child's admission to
 2 the United States.

3 “(D) APPLICATION FOR ADJUSTMENT OF
 4 STATUS.—A spouse or child who was not admit-
 5 ted to the United States pursuant to a grant of
 6 asylum, but who was granted asylum under this
 7 subparagraph after his or her arrival as the
 8 spouse or child of an alien granted asylum
 9 under section 208, may apply for adjustment of
 10 status to that of lawful permanent resident
 11 under section 209 at any time after being
 12 granted asylum.”.

13 (c) REFUGEES.—Section 209 of such Act (8 U.S.C.
 14 1159) is amended to read as follows:

15 **“SEC. 209. TREATMENT OF ALIENS ADMITTED AS REFU-**
 16 **GEES AND ALIENS GRANTED ASYLUM.**

17 “(a) IN GENERAL.—

18 “(1) TREATMENT OF REFUGEES.—Notwith-
 19 standing any numerical limitations specified in this
 20 Act, any alien who has been admitted to the United
 21 States under section 207 shall be regarded as law-
 22 fully admitted to the United States for permanent
 23 residence as of the date of such admission.

24 “(2) TREATMENT OF SPOUSE AND CHIL-
 25 DREN.—Notwithstanding any numerical limitations

1 specified in this Act, any alien admitted to the
2 United States under section 208(b)(3) as the spouse
3 or child of an alien granted asylum under section
4 208(b)(1) shall be regarded as lawfully admitted to
5 the United States for permanent residence as of the
6 date of such admission.

7 “(3) ADJUSTMENT OF STATUS.—The Secretary
8 of Homeland Security or the Attorney General, in
9 the discretion of the Secretary or the Attorney Gen-
10 eral, and under such regulations as the Secretary or
11 the Attorney General may prescribe, may adjust, to
12 the status of an alien lawfully admitted to the
13 United States for permanent residence, the status of
14 any alien who, while in the United States—

15 “(A) is granted—

16 “(i) asylum under section 208(b) (as
17 a principal alien or as the spouse or child
18 of an alien granted asylum); or

19 “(ii) refugee status under section 207
20 as the spouse or child of a refugee;

21 “(B) applies for such adjustment of status
22 at any time after being granted asylum or ref-
23 ugee status;

24 “(C) is not firmly resettled in any foreign
25 country; and

1 “(D) is admissible (except as otherwise
2 provided under subsections (b) and (c)) as an
3 immigrant under this Act at the time of exam-
4 ination for adjustment of such alien.

5 “(4) RECORD.—Upon approval of an applica-
6 tion under this subsection, the Secretary of Home-
7 land Security or the Attorney General shall establish
8 a record of the alien’s admission for lawful perma-
9 nent residence as of the date such alien was granted
10 asylum or refugee status.

11 “(5) DOCUMENT ISSUANCE.—An alien who has
12 been admitted to the United States under section
13 207 or 208 or who adjusts to the status of a lawful
14 permanent resident as a refugee or asylee under this
15 section shall be issued documentation indicating that
16 such alien is a lawful permanent resident pursuant
17 to a grant of refugee or asylum status.

18 “(b) INAPPLICABILITY OF CERTAIN INADMISSIBILITY
19 GROUNDS TO REFUGEES, ALIENS GRANTED ASYLUM,
20 AND SUCH ALIENS SEEKING ADJUSTMENT OF STATUS TO
21 LAWFUL PERMANENT RESIDENT.—Paragraphs (4), (5),
22 and (7)(A) of section 212(a) shall not apply to—

23 “(1) any refugee under section 207;

24 “(2) any alien granted asylum under section
25 208; or

1 “(3) any alien seeking admission as a lawful
2 permanent resident pursuant to a grant of refugee
3 or asylum status.

4 “(c) WAIVER OF INADMISSIBILITY OR DEPORT-
5 ABILITY FOR REFUGEES, ALIENS GRANTED ASYLUM, AND
6 SUCH ALIENS SEEKING ADJUSTMENT OF STATUS TO
7 LAWFUL PERMANENT RESIDENT.—

8 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in para-
9 graph (2), the Secretary of Homeland Security or
10 the Attorney General may waive any ground of inad-
11 missibility under section 212 or any ground of de-
12 portability under section 237 for a refugee admitted
13 under section 207, an alien granted asylum under
14 section 208, or an alien seeking admission as a law-
15 ful permanent resident pursuant to a grant of ref-
16 ugee or asylum status if the Secretary or the Attor-
17 ney General determines that such waiver is justified
18 by humanitarian purposes, to ensure family unity, or
19 is otherwise in the public interest.

20 “(2) INELIGIBILITY.—A refugee under section
21 207, an alien granted asylum under section 208, or
22 an alien seeking admission as a lawful permanent
23 resident pursuant to a grant of refugee or asylum
24 status shall be ineligible for a waiver under para-

graph (1) if it has been established that the alien
is—

“(A) inadmissible under section
212(a)(2)(C) or subparagraph (A), (B), (C), or
(E) of section 212(a)(3);

“(B) deportable under section
237(a)(2)(A)(iii) for an offense described in
section 101(a)(43)(B); or

“(C) deportable under subparagraph (A),
(B), (C), or (D) of section 237(a)(4).”.

(d) TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS.—

(1) ALIENS NOT SUBJECT TO DIRECT NUMERICAL LIMITATIONS.—Section 201(b)(1)(B) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1151(b)(1)(B)) is amended to read as follows:

“(B) Aliens who are admitted to the United States as permanent residents under section 207 or 208 or whose status is adjusted under section 209.”.

(2) TRAINING.—Section 207(f)(1) of such Act (8 U.S.C. 1157(f)(1)) is amended by striking “Attorney General” and inserting “Secretary of Homeland Security”.

(3) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for such Act is amended by striking the item relating to section 209 and inserting the following:

“Sec. 209. Treatment of aliens admitted as refugees and aliens granted asylum.”.

1 (e) SAVINGS PROVISIONS.—

2 (1) IN GENERAL.—Nothing in the amendments
3 made by this section may be construed to limit ac-
4 cess to the benefits described at chapter 2 of title IV
5 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C.
6 1521 et seq.).

7 (2) CLARIFICATION.—Aliens admitted for law-
8 ful permanent residence under section 207 or 208 of
9 the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C.
10 1157; 1158) or who adjust status to lawful perma-
11 nent resident under section 209 of such Act (8
12 U.S.C. 1159) shall be considered to be refugees and
13 aliens granted asylum in accordance with sections
14 402, 403, 412, and 431 of the Personal Responsi-
15 bility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of
16 1996 (8 U.S.C. 1612; 1613; 1622; 1641).

17 (f) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section, and the amend-
18 ments made by this section, shall become effective on the
19 earlier of—

20 (1) the date that is 180 days after the date of
21 the enactment of this Act; or

22 (2) the date on which a final rule is promul-
23 gated to implement this section.

1 **SEC. 5. UPDATE OF RECEPTION AND PLACEMENT GRANTS.**

2 Beginning with fiscal year 2014, the Secretary of
3 State shall, when setting the amount of the reception and
4 placement grants for refugees, ensure that—

5 (1) the grant amount is adjusted so that it is
6 adequate to provide for the anticipated initial reset-
7 tlement needs of refugees, including adjusting the
8 amount for inflation and the cost of living;

9 (2) the administrative proportion of the grant is
10 provided at the beginning of the fiscal year to each
11 national resettlement agency that is sufficient to en-
12 sure adequate local and national capacity to serve
13 the initial resettlement needs of refugees the Sec-
14 retary anticipates the agency will resettle throughout
15 the fiscal year; and

16 (3) additional amounts are provided to each na-
17 tional resettlement agency promptly upon the arrival
18 of refugees that, exclusive of the amounts provided
19 pursuant to paragraph (2), are sufficient to meet the
20 anticipated initial resettlement needs of such refu-
21 gees and support local and national operational costs
22 in excess of the estimates described in paragraph
23 (1).

24 **SEC. 6. COORDINATION OF REFUGEE PROGRAM AGENCIES.**

25 It is the sense of the Congress that—

1 (1) the President should appoint a White House
2 Coordinator on Refugee Protection and grant such
3 official the authority and staff necessary to coordi-
4 nate, prioritize, and lead efforts to address refugee
5 protection issues that involve multiple agencies, in-
6 cluding the refugee admissions program, and to re-
7 solve interagency differences in a timely, efficient,
8 and effective manner; and

9 (2) this position should be at a senior level and
10 require as a condition for appointment a significant
11 level of prior experience in the refugee protection
12 field.

13 **SEC. 7. CASE MANAGEMENT.**

14 (a) IN GENERAL.—

15 (1) ESTABLISHMENT OF GRANT PROGRAM.—
16 The Director of the Office of Refugee Resettlement
17 shall make grants to national resettlement agencies
18 to operate a case management system to assist
19 qualified individuals in accessing services, benefits,
20 and assistance for which they are eligible that are
21 provided by—

22 (A) the Office of Refugee Resettlement
23 (the “Office”);

24 (B) other Federal, State, or local agencies;
25 and

1 (C) private or nonprofit organizations.

2 (2) QUALIFIED INDIVIDUALS.—Subject to para-
3 graphs (3) and (4), any individual who was at any
4 time eligible for resettlement, acculturation, or sub-
5 sistence services provided by the Office shall be
6 qualified to receive the case management services de-
7 scribed in paragraph (1).

8 (3) PERIOD OF QUALIFICATION.—Except as
9 provided in paragraph (4), an individual described in
10 paragraph (2) shall be qualified to receive the case
11 management services described in paragraph (1)
12 during the period beginning on the date such indi-
13 vidual was determined to be eligible for resettlement,
14 acculturation, or subsistence services provided by the
15 Office, and continuing for 1 year after the date on
16 which such individual ceases to be eligible for such
17 resettlement, acculturation, or subsistence service.

18 (4) EXCEPTIONS FOR EXCEPTIONAL CIR-
19 CUMSTANCES.—

20 (A) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding para-
21 graph (3), an individual described in subpara-
22 graph (B) shall be qualified to receive the case
23 management services described in paragraph
24 (1) during the period beginning on the date on
25 which such individual was determined eligible

1 for resettlement, acculturation, or subsistence
2 services provided by the Office, and continuing
3 for 3 years after the date on which such indi-
4 vidual ceases to be eligible for such resettle-
5 ment, acculturation, or subsistence services.

6 (B) EXCEPTIONAL CIRCUMSTANCES.—An
7 individual described in paragraph (2) may be
8 treated in accordance with subparagraph (A) if
9 such individual—

10 (i) is elderly;

11 (ii) has extraordinary resettlement or
12 acculturation needs that impede such indi-
13 vidual's ability to achieve durable self suffi-
14 ciency;

15 (iii) is a refugee who was resettled
16 from a situation of protracted displace-
17 ment;

18 (iv) is a member of a family caring for
19 an unattached refugee minor; or

20 (v) at the time of entry—

21 (I) had a disability or serious
22 medical condition;

23 (II) had mental health condi-
24 tions;

1 (III) was part of a household
2 headed by a single parent; or

3 (IV) had been the victim of a se-
4 vere form of violence.

5 (5) DEFINITION OF RESETTLEMENT, ACCUL-
6 TURATION, OR SUBSISTENCE SERVICES.—For the
7 purposes of this section, the term, “resettlement, ac-
8 culturation, or subsistence services” shall include all
9 of the services provided by the Office to aliens, with
10 the exception of the case management services pro-
11 vided under paragraph (1).

12 (b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is
13 authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be nec-
14 essary to carry out this section.

15 (c) SAVINGS CLAUSE.—Nothing in this section shall
16 be construed as affecting the authority of the Director
17 under section 412(e)(7)(A) of the Immigration and Na-
18 tionality Act (8 U.S.C. 1522(e)(7)(A)), or of any other
19 section of such Act, to provide case management services
20 to individuals who have been in the United States for
21 longer than 36 months.

22 **SEC. 8. INCREASE IN CASH PAYMENTS.**

23 (a) Section 412 of the Immigration and Nationality
24 Act (8 U.S.C. 1522) is amended—

1 (1) in subsection (a)(1)(B), by adding at the
2 end the following:

3 “(iv) Subject to the availability of funds appro-
4 priated for this purpose, assistance and social serv-
5 ices for employment, health and living expenses shall
6 be available for a period of not less than 12
7 months.”;

8 (2) in subsection (a)(5), by adding at the end
9 the following: “Subject to the availability of funds
10 appropriated for this purpose, assistance and serv-
11 ices shall be made available to refugees for a period
12 of not less than 12 months.”; and

13 (3) in subsection (e)(1)—

14 (A) by striking “(1)” and inserting
15 “(1)(A)”; and

16 (B) by adding at the end the following:

17 “(B) Subject to the availability of funds appropriated
18 for this purpose, such assistance shall be provided for a
19 minimum of 12 months beginning with the first month
20 in which such refugee entered the United States.”.

21 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
22 subsection (a) shall become effective on the earlier of—

23 (1) the first day of the first fiscal year that be-
24 gins after the date of the enactment of this Act; or

1 (2) the date on which a final rule is promul-
2 gated to implement this section.

3 (c) **RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.**—The 12-month speci-
4 fication contained in the amendments made by subsection
5 (a) is a minimum standard for the provision of services
6 to the refugee community. No part of this Act shall be
7 interpreted as limiting or reducing assistance already pro-
8 vided for a period longer than 12 months.

9 **SEC. 9. REFUGEE INTEGRATION GRANTS.**

10 (a) **ESTABLISHMENT OF REFUGEE INTEGRATION**
11 **GRANTS.**—The Director of the Office of Refugee Resettle-
12 ment is authorized to award grants to community-based
13 organizations, national nonprofit organizations having ex-
14 perience and expertise in immigration law and the legal,
15 social, educational, or cultural needs of immigrants, and
16 national resettlement agencies for the design and imple-
17 mentation of programs to offer training and orientation
18 to newcomers to the United States to assist them in inte-
19 grating into the civic life of the United States.

20 (b) **SERVICES FUNDED.**—Programs funded under
21 subsection (a) shall be used—

22 (1) to offer assistance and instruction to aliens
23 described in subsection (c), on—

24 (A) the naturalization process;

- 1 (B) the legal requirements for naturaliza-
2 tion;
3 (C) rights and responsibilities of U.S. citi-
4 zens;
5 (D) cultural orientation;
6 (E) English as a second language;
7 (F) civics and United States history;
8 (G) housing;
9 (H) transportation;
10 (I) recertification;
11 (J) employment training;
12 (K) mental health services;
13 (L) childcare services; and
14 (M) other topics the Director identifies as
15 aiding the orientation and adjustment of new
16 arrivals to the United States;
17 (2) to offer orientation and assistance to Fed-
18 eral, State, and local institutions that serve new-
19 comers to the United States so as to assist such in-
20 stitutions in meeting their needs; and
21 (3) to provide technical assistance and training
22 to community-based organizations providing instruc-
23 tion in English as a second language, civics, and
24 United States history and technical assistance and

1 training to community-based organizations providing
2 naturalization outreach and application assistance.

3 (c) ELIGIBLE PERSONS.—Persons eligible for assist-
4 ance and instruction under this subsection include—

5 (1) aliens admitted as refugees under section
6 207 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8
7 U.S.C. 1157);

8 (2) aliens granted asylum under section 208 of
9 such Act (8 U.S.C. 1158);

10 (3) aliens admitted as special immigrants from
11 Iraq or Afghanistan pursuant to section 1244 of
12 Public Law 110–181;

13 (4) any alien who was at any time eligible to re-
14 ceive services from the Office of Refugee Resettle-
15 ment; and

16 (5) other aliens designated by the Director of
17 the Office of Refugee Resettlement.

18 (d) APPLICATION FOR GRANTS.—Each entity desir-
19 ing a refugee integration grant under this section shall
20 submit an application to the Director at such time and
21 in such manner as the Director may require.

22 (e) PRIORITY.—In selecting grantees, the Director
23 shall give priority to organizations either with experience
24 in resettling refugees or in administering services for refu-
25 gees and asylum seekers.

1 (f) REPORTS TO CONGRESS.—Beginning 180 days
2 after the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually
3 thereafter, the Director shall report to the Judiciary Com-
4 mittees of the Senate and the House of Representatives
5 a report on the implementation of this section. The report
6 shall include information regarding the grants issued pur-
7 suant to this section and the results of those grants.

8 **SEC. 10. MATCHING GRANT PROGRAM EXPANSION.**

9 (a) USE OF THE REFUGEE MATCHING GRANT PRO-
10 GRAM.—

11 (1) IN GENERAL.—In recognition of the positive
12 outcomes achieved for individuals served through the
13 refugee matching grant program, under which Fed-
14 eral funds are matched by private sector contribu-
15 tions of cash, goods, and volunteers, the Director of
16 the Office of Refugee Resettlement shall ensure that
17 the thresholds described in paragraph (2) are met
18 with respect to participation by eligible individuals in
19 such program.

20 (2) ANNUAL THRESHOLDS.—

21 (A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to the avail-
22 ability of funds appropriated for this purpose,
23 the percentage of eligible individuals who apply
24 for services under the matching grant program
25 who shall be served through such program is

1 set at the following levels in each of the fol-
2 lowing fiscal years—

3 (i) at least 60 percent in fiscal year
4 2014;

5 (ii) at least 70 percent in fiscal year
6 2015; and

7 (iii) at least 80 percent in fiscal year
8 2016, and thereafter.

9 (B) EXCEPTIONS.—In determining the
10 thresholds in this paragraph, the Director shall
11 exclude individuals who are disabled, under the
12 age of 18, or over the age of 65 unless such in-
13 dividuals are being served as members of an eli-
14 gible family.

15 (3) LENGTH OF ELIGIBILITY FOR GRANT.—In-
16 dividuals as described in subparagraph (2)(B) shall
17 be eligible for services under the matching grant
18 program, and therefore be expected to achieve self-
19 sufficiency, within 180 to 240 days of their enroll-
20 ment in the program.

21 (4) AMOUNT OF GRANT.—

22 (A) ANNUAL UPDATE.—Subject to the
23 availability of funds appropriated for this pur-
24 pose, beginning with fiscal year 2014, the Di-
25 rector shall, when setting the amount of the

1 matching grants, ensure that the grant amount
2 is adjusted annually so that it is adequate to
3 provide for services intended to help refugees
4 become self-sufficient within 180 to 240 days,
5 including adjusting the amount for inflation
6 and the cost of living.

7 (B) ASSESSMENT.—Not later than 30 days
8 after the date of enactment of this Act, the Di-
9 rector shall undertake an assessment of the per
10 capita amount that is provided in the matching
11 grant program. The assessment shall—

12 (i) examine the adequacy of the cur-
13 rent per capita grant amount to provide
14 the assistance necessary to enable individ-
15 uals who are served by the program to
16 achieve self-sufficiency within 240 days;

17 (ii) determine the per capita grant
18 amount that would be necessary in order
19 to provide the assistance necessary to en-
20 able individuals who are served by the pro-
21 gram achieve self-sufficiency within 240
22 days;

23 (iii) assess the potential impact of any
24 other changes to the operation of the pro-
25 gram that the Director or the Office's non-

1 Federal partners suggest to improve the
2 effectiveness of the program.

3 (C) CONSULTATION WITH PARTNERS.—In
4 conducting the assessment referred to in sub-
5 paragraph (B), the Director shall consult with
6 representatives of national and local resettlement
7 agencies with experience in providing
8 services under the matching grant program to
9 learn their views on the program, including
10 their views with respect to clauses (i) through
11 (iv) of subparagraph (B).

12 (D) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later
13 than 120 days after the date of enactment of
14 this Act, the Director shall report to the appropriate
15 committees of Congress the results of the
16 assessment made pursuant to subparagraph
17 (B). Such report shall include—

18 (i) the Director's findings pursuant to
19 subparagraph (B);

20 (ii) the amount of the per capita
21 grant that will be provided beginning on
22 the first day of the first fiscal year that begins
23 after the date of enactment of this
24 Act; and

1 (iii) a summary of the views expressed
2 by the entities described in subparagraph
3 (C).

4 (E) GRANT AMOUNT IN ABSENCE OF RE-
5 PORT.—If for any reason the report described
6 in subparagraph (D) is not filed with the appro-
7 priate committees of the Congress on or before
8 the required date for the submission of such re-
9 port, the per capita matching grant amount for
10 the first fiscal year that begins after the date
11 of enactment of this Act shall be set at the
12 amount set for such grant on September 30 of
13 the previous fiscal year and prorated to reflect
14 a 180- to 240-day grant period.

15 **SEC. 11. DOMESTIC EMERGENCY REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT**
16 **FUND.**

17 (a) IN GENERAL.—There is established a Domestic
18 Emergency Refugee Resettlement Fund that shall be
19 available to the Director of the Office of Refugee Resettle-
20 ment to meet unanticipated resettlement needs.

21 (b) DRAWDOWN OF FUNDS.—Whenever the Director
22 determines it to be important to the national interest, the
23 Director is authorized to furnish on such terms and condi-
24 tions as the Director may determine, assistance under this
25 chapter for the purpose of meeting unexpected urgent re-

1 settlement needs of populations and communities served
2 pursuant to this chapter, including communities experi-
3 encing high numbers of arrivals of refugees due to sec-
4 ondary migration.

5 (c) ALLOWABLE USES.—The Director may furnish
6 assistance to eligible entities for the purposes of providing
7 resettlement assistance to refugees, including transpor-
8 tation, housing, employment, health, mental health,
9 English language training services, recertification, and
10 other purposes as determined by the Director.

11 (d) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES DEFINED.—National reset-
12 tlement agencies, community-based organizations, torture
13 survivor rehabilitation centers and programs, and States.

14 (e) CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION.—No amounts
15 may be withdrawn from the fund authorized by subsection
16 (a) unless the Director has determined that a domestic
17 resettlement emergency exists and has certified such fact
18 to appropriate committees of Congress.

19 (f) CAP ON FUND.—No funds may be appropriated
20 which when added to the amounts previously appropriated
21 but not yet obligated, would cause such amounts to exceed
22 \$50,000,000.

23 (g) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Funds
24 appropriated pursuant to this section shall be available
25 until expended.

1 **SEC. 12. SUPPLEMENTAL SECURITY INCOME BENEFITS.**

2 Section 402(a)(2) of the Personal Responsibility and
3 Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 (8 U.S.C.
4 1612(a)(2)) is amended—

5 (1) by amending subparagraph (A) to read as
6 follows:

7 “(A) EXCEPTION FOR REFUGEES AND
8 ASYLEES.—With respect to the specified Fed-
9 eral programs described in paragraph (3), para-
10 graph (1) shall not apply to—

11 “(i) an alien admitted to the United
12 States as a refugee under section 207 of
13 the Immigration and Nationality Act 8
14 U.S.C. 1157;

15 “(ii) an alien granted asylum under
16 section 208 of such Act 8 U.S.C. 1158;

17 “(iii) an alien whose deportation is
18 withheld under section 243(h) of such Act
19 8 U.S.C. 1253 (as in effect immediately
20 before the effective date of section 307 of
21 division C of Public Law 104–208) or sec-
22 tion 241(b)(3) of such Act 8 U.S.C.
23 1231(b)(3) (as amended by section 305(a)
24 of division C of Public Law 104–208);

25 “(iv) an alien who is granted status as
26 a Cuban and Haitian entrant (as defined

1 in section 501(e) of the Refugee Education
2 Assistance Act of 1980); or

3 “(v) an alien who is admitted to the
4 United States as an Amerasian immigrant
5 pursuant to section 584 of the Foreign Op-
6 erations, Export Financing, and Related
7 Programs Appropriations Act, 1988 (as
8 contained in section 101(e) of Public Law
9 100–202 and amended by the 9th proviso
10 under migration and refugee assistance in
11 title II of the Foreign Operations, Export
12 Financing, and Related Programs Approp-
13 riations Act, 1989, Public Law 100–461,
14 as amended).”; and

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

16 “(N) SSI BENEFITS FOR CERTAIN ALIENS
17 AND VICTIMS OF TRAFFICKING.—Beginning on
18 the date of the enactment of this subparagraph,
19 any qualified alien (as defined in section
20 431(b)), victim of trafficking in persons (as de-
21 fined in section 107(b)(1)(C) of division A of
22 the Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protec-
23 tion Act of 2000 (Public Law 106–386)), or
24 alien granted status under section
25 101(a)(15)(T)(ii) of the Immigration and Na-

tionality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(15)(T)(ii)) rendered ineligible for the specified Federal program described in paragraph (3)(A) solely by reason of the termination of the 7-year period described in subparagraph (A) prior to the enactment of this subparagraph shall be eligible for benefits under such program without regard to subparagraph (A).”.

SEC. 13. MAKING SPECIAL IMMIGRANT JUVENILE STATUS BENEFICIARIES AND UNACCOMPANIED CHILDREN GRANTED “U” VISA PROTECTION ELIGIBLE FOR REFUGEE BENEFITS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 235(d)(4) of the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008 (8 U.S.C. 1232(d)(4)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A)—

(A) by striking “either”;

(B) by striking “or who” and inserting a comma;

(C) by inserting “, or has been granted status under section 101(a)(15)(U) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(15)(U))” before “, shall”; and

(D) by striking “be eligible for” and inserting “receive”; and

1 (2) in subparagraph (B), by inserting “or sta-
2 tus under section 101(a)(15)(U) of the Immigration
3 and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(15)(U)),”
4 after “(8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(27)(J))”.

5 (b) STATE REIMBURSEMENT.—Subject to the avail-
6 ability of funds appropriated for this purpose, if State fos-
7 ter care funds are expended on behalf of a child who has
8 been granted special immigrant status under section
9 101(a)(27)(J) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8
10 U.S.C. 1101(a)(27)(J)), the Federal Government shall re-
11 imburse the State in which the child resides for such ex-
12 penditures by the State.

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