

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3573

To amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to require the enactment into law of a joint resolution approving the number of refugees who may be admitted in any fiscal year, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 18, 2015

Mr. McCAUL (for himself and Mr. BABIN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to require the enactment into law of a joint resolution approving the number of refugees who may be admitted in any fiscal year, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Refugee Resettlement
5 Oversight and Security Act of 2015”.

1 **SEC. 2. JOINT RESOLUTION OF APPROVAL REQUIRED FOR**
2 **ADMISSION OF REFUGEES.**

3 Section 207 of the Immigration and Nationality Act
4 (8 U.S.C. 1157) is amended—

5 (1) in subsection (a)—

6 (A) by amending paragraphs (1) and (2)
7 to read as follows:

8 “(1) Before the beginning of a fiscal year and
9 after appropriate consultation (as defined in sub-
10 section (e) of this section), the President shall sub-
11 mit to Congress a recommendation on the number of
12 refugees who may be admitted under this section in
13 any fiscal year.

14 “(2) Except as provided in subsection (b), no
15 refugees may be admitted under this section in a fis-
16 cal year until such time as a joint resolution is en-
17 acted into law which sets the number of refugees
18 who may be admitted under this section in that fis-
19 cal year.”; and

20 (B) in paragraph (4)—

21 (i) by striking “determination” and
22 inserting “recommendation”; and

23 (ii) by striking “determined” and in-
24 serting “recommended”;

25 (2) in subsection (b)—

1 (A) by striking “fix” and inserting “submit
2 to Congress a recommendation for”;

3 (B) by striking “situation and such” and
4 inserting “situation. Any such”; and

5 (C) by adding at the end the following:
6 “No refugees may be admitted under this sub-
7 section until such time as a joint resolution is
8 enacted into law which sets the number of refu-
9 gees who may be admitted under this sub-
10 section.”;

11 (3) in subsection (c)(1), by striking “Subject to
12 the numerical limitations established pursuant to
13 subsections (a) and (b)” and inserting “Subject to
14 the enactment into law of a joint resolution under
15 subsection (a) or (b), and the numerical limitations
16 established pursuant to such a resolution,”; and

17 (4) in subsection (d)—

18 (A) in paragraph (3), by striking “deter-
19 mination” each place it appears and inserting
20 “recommendation”.

21 **SEC. 3. APPROPRIATE CONSULTATION.**

22 Section 207 of the Immigration and Nationality Act
23 (8 U.S.C. 1157) is further amended—

24 (1) in subsection (d)(1), by inserting after
25 “Committees on the Judiciary of the House of Rep-

(2) in subsection (e), by inserting after “members of the Committees on the Judiciary of the Senate and of the House of Representatives” the following: “, the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives, the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate, the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives, and the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate”.

Section 207(c) of the Immigration and Nationality
Act (8 U.S.C. 1157(c)) is further amended—

(1) by striking “Attorney General” each place
it appears and inserting “Secretary of Homeland Se-
curity”; and

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1 missible under section 212(a)(3), the Secretary shall
2 consult with the Director of National Intelligence
3 and the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investiga-
4 tion.”.

5 **SEC. 5. PRIORITY FOR REFUGEES FROM IRAQ AND SYRIA**
6 **PERSECUTED ON THE BASIS OF RELIGION.**

7 Beginning in fiscal year 2016 and ending in fiscal
8 year 2020, when considering the admission of refugees
9 who are nationals or citizens of Iraq or Syria, the Presi-
10 dent shall prioritize refugees who are members of a reli-
11 gious minority community, and have been identified by the
12 Secretary of State, or the designee of the Secretary, as
13 a persecuted group.

14 **SEC. 6. REPORT.**

15 Not later than one year after the date of the enact-
16 ment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United
17 States shall submit to Congress a report on the adequacy
18 and effectiveness at protecting the security of the United
19 States of the refugee screening process. The report shall
20 include the following:

21 (1) The number of refugees that the Secretary
22 of Homeland Security determined were admissible
23 under paragraph (3) of section 212(a) of the Immi-
24 gration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1182(a)(3)),

1 but who, subsequent to admission to the United
2 States, became inadmissible under such paragraph.

3 (2) Federal agencies which are not, as of the
4 date of the report, involved in making determina-
5 tions of admissibility of refugees under such para-
6 graph, which the Comptroller General determines
7 should be so involved.

8 (3) Issues or gaps in the process for deter-
9 mining the admissibility of refugees under such
10 paragraph.

11 (4) Recommendations for improving the process
12 for determining the admissibility of refugees under
13 such paragraph in order to better protect the secu-
14 rity of the United States.

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