

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1537

To amend the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2008 to transfer the custody of an unaccompanied alien child to the Secretary of Health and Human Services or such child’s parent or legal guardian.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 10, 2023

Mr. BURGESS (for himself, Mr. ELLZEY, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. WEBER of Texas, and Mr. CRENSHAW) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To amend the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2008 to transfer the custody of an unaccompanied alien child to the Secretary of Health and Human Services or such child’s parent or legal guardian.

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 “Protecting an Alien
5 child’s Reasonable Expectation of No Trafficking Act of
6 2023” or the “PARENT Act of 2023”.

1 **SEC. 2. PROVIDING SAFE AND SECURE PLACEMENTS FOR**
2 **CHILDREN.**

3 Section 235(b)(3) of the William Wilberforce Traf-
4 ficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008 (8
5 U.S.C. 1232(b)(3)) shall be amended to read as follows:

6 “(3) TRANSFERS OF UNACCOMPANIED ALIEN
7 CHILDREN.—Not later than 72 hours after deter-
8 mining that a child is an unaccompanied alien child,
9 any department or agency of the Federal Govern-
10 ment that has an unaccompanied alien child in cus-
11 tody shall only transfer the custody of such child to
12 such child’s verified parent or legal guardian or to
13 the Secretary of Health and Human Services.”.

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