

[118H16]

.....  
(Original Signature of Member)

119TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

**H. R.** \_\_\_\_\_

To authorize the cancellation of removal and adjustment of status of certain  
aliens, and for other purposes.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

Ms. GARCIA of Texas introduced the following bill; which was referred to the  
Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
**A BILL**

To authorize the cancellation of removal and adjustment  
of status of certain aliens, 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       “American Dream and Promise Act of 2025”.

6       (b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for  
7       this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

TITLE I—DREAM ACT OF 2025

- Sec. 101. Short title.  
Sec. 102. Permanent resident status on a conditional basis for certain long-term residents who entered the United States as children.  
Sec. 103. Terms of permanent resident status on a conditional basis.  
Sec. 104. Removal of conditional basis of permanent resident status.  
Sec. 105. Restoration of State option to determine residency for purposes of higher education benefits.

## TITLE II—AMERICAN PROMISE ACT OF 2025

- Sec. 201. Short title.  
Sec. 202. Adjustment of status for certain nationals of certain countries designated for temporary protected status or deferred enforced departure.  
Sec. 203. Clarification.

## TITLE III—GENERAL PROVISIONS

- Sec. 301. Definitions.  
Sec. 302. Submission of biometric and biographic data; background checks.  
Sec. 303. Limitation on removal; application and fee exemption; and other conditions on eligible individuals.  
Sec. 304. Determination of continuous presence and residence.  
Sec. 305. Exemption from numerical limitations.  
Sec. 306. Availability of administrative and judicial review.  
Sec. 307. Documentation requirements.  
Sec. 308. Rulemaking.  
Sec. 309. Confidentiality of information.  
Sec. 310. Grant program to assist eligible applicants.  
Sec. 311. Provisions affecting eligibility for adjustment of status.  
Sec. 312. Supplementary surcharge for appointed counsel.  
Sec. 313. Annual report on provisional denial authority.

# 1      **TITLE I—DREAM ACT OF 2025**

## 2      **SEC. 101. SHORT TITLE.**

3            This title may be cited as the “Dream Act of 2025”.

## 4      **SEC. 102. PERMANENT RESIDENT STATUS ON A CONDI-** 5                            **TIONAL BASIS FOR CERTAIN LONG-TERM** 6                            **RESIDENTS WHO ENTERED THE UNITED** 7                            **STATES AS CHILDREN.**

8            (a) **CONDITIONAL BASIS FOR STATUS.**—Notwith-  
9            standing any other provision of law, and except as pro-  
10          vided in section 104(c)(2), an alien shall be considered,  
11          at the time of obtaining the status of an alien lawfully

1 admitted for permanent residence under this section, to  
2 have obtained such status on a conditional basis subject  
3 to the provisions of this title.

4 (b) REQUIREMENTS.—

5 (1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other  
6 provision of law, the Secretary or the Attorney Gen-  
7 eral shall adjust to the status of an alien lawfully  
8 admitted for permanent residence on a conditional  
9 basis, or without the conditional basis as provided in  
10 section 104(c)(2), an alien who is inadmissible or de-  
11 portable from the United States, is subject to a  
12 grant of Deferred Enforced Departure, has tem-  
13 porary protected status under section 244 of the Im-  
14 migration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1254a), or  
15 is the son or daughter of an alien admitted as a non-  
16 immigrant under subparagraph (E)(i), (E)(ii),  
17 (H)(i)(b), or (L) of section 101(a)(15) of such Act  
18 (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(15)) if—

19 (A) the alien has been continuously phys-  
20 ically present in the United States since Janu-  
21 ary 1, 2021;

22 (B) the alien was 18 years of age or  
23 younger on the date on which the alien entered  
24 the United States and has continuously resided  
25 in the United States since such entry;

1 (C) the alien—

2 (i) subject to paragraph (2), is not in-  
3 admissible under paragraph (1), (6)(E),  
4 (6)(G), (8), or (10) of section 212(a) of  
5 the Immigration and Nationality Act (8  
6 U.S.C. 1182(a));

7 (ii) has not ordered, incited, assisted,  
8 or otherwise participated in the persecution  
9 of any person on account of race, religion,  
10 nationality, membership in a particular so-  
11 cial group, or political opinion; and

12 (iii) is not barred from adjustment of  
13 status under this title based on the crimi-  
14 nal and national security grounds de-  
15 scribed under subsection (c), subject to the  
16 provisions of such subsection; and

17 (D) the alien—

18 (i) has been admitted to an institution  
19 of higher education;

20 (ii) has been admitted to an area ca-  
21 reer and technical education school at the  
22 postsecondary level;

23 (iii) in the United States, has ob-  
24 tained—

1 (I) a high school diploma or a  
2 commensurate alternative award from  
3 a public or private high school;

4 (II) a General Education Devel-  
5 opment credential, a high school  
6 equivalency diploma recognized under  
7 State law, or another similar State-  
8 authorized credential;

9 (III) a credential or certificate  
10 from an area career and technical  
11 education school at the secondary  
12 level; or

13 (IV) a recognized postsecondary  
14 credential; or

15 (iv) is enrolled in secondary school or  
16 in an education program assisting students  
17 in—

18 (I) obtaining a high school di-  
19 ploma or its recognized equivalent  
20 under State law;

21 (II) passing the General Edu-  
22 cation Development test, a high school  
23 equivalence diploma examination, or  
24 other similar State-authorized exam;

1 (III) obtaining a certificate or  
2 credential from an area career and  
3 technical education school providing  
4 education at the secondary level; or  
5 (IV) obtaining a recognized post-  
6 secondary credential.

7 (2) WAIVER OF GROUNDS OF INADMISS-  
8 SIBILITY.—With respect to any benefit under this  
9 title, and in addition to the waivers under subsection  
10 (c)(2), the Secretary may waive the grounds of inad-  
11 missibility under paragraph (1), (6)(E), (6)(G), or  
12 (10)(D) of section 212(a) of the Immigration and  
13 Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1182(a)) for humanitarian  
14 purposes, for family unity, or because the waiver is  
15 otherwise in the public interest.

16 (3) APPLICATION FEE.—

17 (A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may,  
18 subject to an exemption under section 303(c),  
19 require an alien applying under this section to  
20 pay a reasonable fee that is commensurate with  
21 the cost of processing the application but does  
22 not exceed \$495.00.

23 (B) SPECIAL PROCEDURES FOR APPLI-  
24 CANTS WITH DACA.—The Secretary shall estab-  
25 lish a streamlined procedure for aliens who have

1           been granted DACA and who meet the require-  
2           ments for renewal (under the terms of the pro-  
3           gram in effect on January 1, 2017) to apply for  
4           adjustment of status to that of an alien lawfully  
5           admitted for permanent residence on a condi-  
6           tional basis under this section, or without the  
7           conditional basis as provided in section  
8           104(c)(2). Such procedure shall not include a  
9           requirement that the applicant pay a fee, except  
10          that the Secretary may require an applicant  
11          who meets the requirements for lawful perma-  
12          nent residence without the conditional basis  
13          under section 104(c)(2) to pay a fee that is  
14          commensurate with the cost of processing the  
15          application, subject to the exemption under sec-  
16          tion 303(c).

17          (4) BACKGROUND CHECKS.—The Secretary  
18          may not grant an alien permanent resident status on  
19          a conditional basis under this section until the re-  
20          quirements of section 302 are satisfied.

21          (5) MILITARY SELECTIVE SERVICE.—An alien  
22          applying for permanent resident status on a condi-  
23          tional basis under this section, or without the condi-  
24          tional basis as provided in section 104(c)(2), shall  
25          establish that the alien has registered under the

1 Military Selective Service Act (50 U.S.C. 3801 et  
2 seq.), if the alien is subject to registration under  
3 such Act.

4 (c) CRIMINAL AND NATIONAL SECURITY BARS.—

5 (1) GROUNDS OF INELIGIBILITY.—Except as  
6 provided in paragraph (2), an alien is ineligible for  
7 adjustment of status under this title (whether on a  
8 conditional basis or without the conditional basis as  
9 provided in section 104(c)(2)) if any of the following  
10 apply:

11 (A) The alien is inadmissible under para-  
12 graph (2) or (3) of section 212(a) of the Immi-  
13 gration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1182(a)).

14 (B) Excluding any offense under State law  
15 for which an essential element is the alien's im-  
16 migration status, and any minor traffic offense,  
17 the alien has been convicted of—

18 (i) any felony offense;

19 (ii) three or more misdemeanor of-  
20 fenses (excluding simple possession of can-  
21 nabis or cannabis-related paraphernalia,  
22 any offense involving cannabis or cannabis-  
23 related paraphernalia which is no longer  
24 prosecutable in the State in which the con-  
25 viction was entered, and any offense involv-



1 ing civil disobedience without violence) not  
2 occurring on the same date, and not arising  
3 out of the same act, omission, or  
4 scheme of misconduct; or

5 (iii) a misdemeanor offense of domestic  
6 violence, unless the alien demonstrates  
7 that such crime is related to the alien having  
8 been—

9 (I) a victim of domestic violence,  
10 sexual assault, stalking, child abuse or  
11 neglect, abuse or neglect in later life,  
12 or human trafficking;

13 (II) battered or subjected to extreme  
14 cruelty; or

15 (III) a victim of criminal activity  
16 described in section 101(a)(15)(U)(iii)  
17 of the Immigration and Nationality  
18 Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(15)(U)(iii)).

19 (2) WAIVERS FOR CERTAIN MISDEMEANORS.—  
20 For humanitarian purposes, family unity, or if otherwise  
21 in the public interest, the Secretary may—

22 (A) waive the grounds of inadmissibility  
23 under subparagraphs (A), (C), and (D) of section  
24 212(a)(2) of the Immigration and Nationality  
25 Act (8 U.S.C. 1182(a)(2)), unless the con-

1 viction forming the basis for inadmissibility  
2 would otherwise render the alien ineligible  
3 under paragraph (1)(B) (subject to subpara-  
4 graph (B)); and

5 (B) for purposes of clauses (ii) and (iii) of  
6 paragraph (1)(B), waive consideration of—

7 (i) one misdemeanor offense if the  
8 alien has not been convicted of any offense  
9 in the 5-year period preceding the date on  
10 which the alien applies for adjustment of  
11 status under this title; or

12 (ii) up to two misdemeanor offenses if  
13 the alien has not been convicted of any of-  
14 fense in the 10-year period preceding the  
15 date on which the alien applies for adjust-  
16 ment of status under this title.

17 (3) AUTHORITY TO CONDUCT SECONDARY RE-  
18 VIEW.—

19 (A) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding an  
20 alien's eligibility for adjustment of status under  
21 this title, and subject to the procedures de-  
22 scribed in this paragraph, the Secretary may,  
23 as a matter of non-delegable discretion, provi-  
24 sionally deny an application for adjustment of  
25 status (whether on a conditional basis or with-

1 out the conditional basis as provided in section  
2 104(c)(2)) if the Secretary, based on clear and  
3 convincing evidence, which shall include credible  
4 law enforcement information, determines that  
5 the alien is described in subparagraph (B) or  
6 (D).

7 (B) PUBLIC SAFETY.—An alien is de-  
8 scribed in this subparagraph if—

9 (i) excluding simple possession of can-  
10 nabis or cannabis-related paraphernalia,  
11 any offense involving cannabis or cannabis-  
12 related paraphernalia which is no longer  
13 prosecutable in the State in which the con-  
14 viction was entered, any offense under  
15 State law for which an essential element is  
16 the alien's immigration status, any offense  
17 involving civil disobedience without vio-  
18 lence, and any minor traffic offense, the  
19 alien—

20 (I) has been convicted of a mis-  
21 demeanor offense punishable by a  
22 term of imprisonment of more than  
23 30 days; or

24 (II) has been adjudicated delin-  
25 quent in a State or local juvenile court

1 proceeding that resulted in a disposi-  
2 tion ordering placement in a secure  
3 facility; and

4 (ii) the alien poses a significant and  
5 continuing threat to public safety related  
6 to such conviction or adjudication.

7 (C) PUBLIC SAFETY DETERMINATION.—

8 For purposes of subparagraph (B)(ii), the Sec-  
9 retary shall consider the recency of the convic-  
10 tion or adjudication; the length of any imposed  
11 sentence or placement; the nature and serious-  
12 ness of the conviction or adjudication, including  
13 whether the elements of the offense include the  
14 unlawful possession or use of a deadly weapon  
15 to commit an offense or other conduct intended  
16 to cause serious bodily injury; and any miti-  
17 gating factors pertaining to the alien's role in  
18 the commission of the offense.

19 (D) GANG PARTICIPATION.—An alien is  
20 described in this subparagraph if the alien has,  
21 within the 5 years immediately preceding the  
22 date of the application, knowingly, willfully, and  
23 voluntarily participated in offenses committed  
24 by a criminal street gang (as described in sub-  
25 sections (a) and (c) of section 521 of title 18,

1 United States Code) with the intent to promote  
2 or further the commission of such offenses.

3 (E) EVIDENTIARY LIMITATION.—For pur-  
4 poses of subparagraph (D), allegations of gang  
5 membership obtained from a State or Federal  
6 in-house or local database, or a network of  
7 databases used for the purpose of recording and  
8 sharing activities of alleged gang members  
9 across law enforcement agencies, shall not es-  
10 tablish the participation described in such para-  
11 graph.

12 (F) NOTICE.—

13 (i) IN GENERAL.—Prior to rendering  
14 a discretionary decision under this para-  
15 graph, the Secretary shall provide written  
16 notice of the intent to provisionally deny  
17 the application to the alien (or the alien's  
18 counsel of record, if any) by certified mail  
19 and, if an electronic mail address is pro-  
20 vided, by electronic mail (or other form of  
21 electronic communication). Such notice  
22 shall—

23 (I) articulate with specificity all  
24 grounds for the preliminary deter-  
25 mination, including the evidence relied

1                   upon to support the determination;  
2                   and

3                   (II) provide the alien with not  
4                   less than 90 days to respond.

5                   (ii) SECOND NOTICE.—Not more than  
6                   30 days after the issuance of the notice  
7                   under clause (i), the Secretary shall pro-  
8                   vide a second written notice that meets the  
9                   requirements of such clause.

10                  (iii) NOTICE NOT RECEIVED.—Not-  
11                  withstanding any other provision of law, if  
12                  an applicant provides good cause for not  
13                  contesting a provisional denial under this  
14                  paragraph, including a failure to receive  
15                  notice as required under this subpara-  
16                  graph, the Secretary shall, upon a motion  
17                  filed by the alien, reopen an application for  
18                  adjustment of status under this title and  
19                  allow the applicant an opportunity to re-  
20                  spond, consistent with clause (i)(II).

21                  (G) JUDICIAL REVIEW OF A PROVISIONAL  
22                  DENIAL.—

23                  (i) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding  
24                  any other provision of law, if, after notice  
25                  and the opportunity to respond under sub-

1 paragraph (F), the Secretary provisionally  
2 denies an application for adjustment of  
3 status under this Act, the alien shall have  
4 60 days from the date of the Secretary's  
5 determination to seek review of such deter-  
6 mination in an appropriate United States  
7 district court.

8 (ii) SCOPE OF REVIEW AND DECI-  
9 SION.—Notwithstanding any other provi-  
10 sion of law, review under paragraph (1)  
11 shall be de novo and based solely on the  
12 administrative record, except that the ap-  
13 plicant shall be given the opportunity to  
14 supplement the administrative record and  
15 the Secretary shall be given the oppor-  
16 tunity to rebut the evidence and arguments  
17 raised in such submission. Upon issuing its  
18 decision, the court shall remand the mat-  
19 ter, with appropriate instructions, to the  
20 Department of Homeland Security to  
21 render a final decision on the application.

22 (iii) APPOINTED COUNSEL.—Notwith-  
23 standing any other provision of law, an ap-  
24 plicant seeking judicial review under clause  
25 (i) shall be represented by counsel. Upon

1 the request of the applicant, counsel shall  
2 be appointed for the applicant, in accord-  
3 ance with procedures to be established by  
4 the Attorney General within 90 days of the  
5 date of the enactment of this Act, and  
6 shall be funded in accordance with fees col-  
7 lected and deposited in the Immigration  
8 Counsel Account under section 312.

9 (4) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this sub-  
10 section—

11 (A) the term “felony offense” means an of-  
12 fense under Federal or State law that is pun-  
13 ishable by a maximum term of imprisonment of  
14 more than 1 year;

15 (B) the term “misdemeanor offense”  
16 means an offense under Federal or State law  
17 that is punishable by a term of imprisonment of  
18 more than 5 days but not more than 1 year;  
19 and

20 (C) the term “crime of domestic violence”  
21 means any offense that has as an element the  
22 use, attempted use, or threatened use of phys-  
23 ical force against a person committed by a cur-  
24 rent or former spouse of the person, by an indi-  
25 vidual with whom the person shares a child in



1 common, by an individual who is cohabiting  
2 with or has cohabited with the person as a  
3 spouse, by an individual similarly situated to a  
4 spouse of the person under the domestic or  
5 family violence laws of the jurisdiction where  
6 the offense occurs, or by any other individual  
7 against a person who is protected from that in-  
8 dividual's acts under the domestic or family vio-  
9 lence laws of the United States or any State,  
10 Indian Tribal government, or unit of local gov-  
11 ernment.

12 (d) LIMITATION ON REMOVAL OF CERTAIN ALIEN  
13 MINORS.—An alien who is 18 years of age or younger and  
14 meets the requirements under subparagraphs (A), (B),  
15 and (C) of subsection (b)(1) shall be provided a reasonable  
16 opportunity to meet the educational requirements under  
17 subparagraph (D) of such subsection. The Attorney Gen-  
18 eral or the Secretary may not commence or continue with  
19 removal proceedings against such an alien.

20 (e) WITHDRAWAL OF APPLICATION.—The Secretary  
21 shall, upon receipt of a request to withdraw an application  
22 for adjustment of status under this section, cease proc-  
23 essing of the application, and close the case. Withdrawal  
24 of the application under this subsection shall not prejudice  
25 any future application filed by the applicant for any immi-

1 gration benefit under this title or under the Immigration  
2 and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101 et seq.).

3 **SEC. 103. TERMS OF PERMANENT RESIDENT STATUS ON A**  
4 **CONDITIONAL BASIS.**

5 (a) PERIOD OF STATUS.—Permanent resident status  
6 on a conditional basis is—

7 (1) valid for a period of 10 years, unless such  
8 period is extended by the Secretary; and

9 (2) subject to revocation under subsection (c).

10 (b) NOTICE OF REQUIREMENTS.—At the time an  
11 alien obtains permanent resident status on a conditional  
12 basis, the Secretary shall provide notice to the alien re-  
13 garding the provisions of this title and the requirements  
14 to have the conditional basis of such status removed.

15 (c) REVOCATION OF STATUS.—The Secretary may  
16 revoke the permanent resident status on a conditional  
17 basis of an alien only if the Secretary—

18 (1) determines that the alien ceases to meet the  
19 requirements under section 102(b)(1)(C); and

20 (2) prior to the revocation, provides the alien—

21 (A) notice of the proposed revocation; and

22 (B) the opportunity for a hearing to pro-  
23 vide evidence that the alien meets such require-  
24 ments or otherwise to contest the proposed rev-  
25 ocation.

1 (d) RETURN TO PREVIOUS IMMIGRATION STATUS.—  
2 An alien whose permanent resident status on a conditional  
3 basis expires under subsection (a)(1) or is revoked under  
4 subsection (c), shall return to the immigration status that  
5 the alien had immediately before receiving permanent resi-  
6 dent status on a conditional basis.

7 **SEC. 104. REMOVAL OF CONDITIONAL BASIS OF PERMA-**  
8 **NENT RESIDENT STATUS.**

9 (a) ELIGIBILITY FOR REMOVAL OF CONDITIONAL  
10 BASIS.—

11 (1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2),  
12 the Secretary shall remove the conditional basis of  
13 an alien's permanent resident status granted under  
14 this title and grant the alien status as an alien law-  
15 fully admitted for permanent residence if the alien—

16 (A) is described in section 102(b)(1)(C);

17 (B) has not abandoned the alien's resi-  
18 dence in the United States during the period in  
19 which the alien has permanent resident status  
20 on a conditional basis; and

21 (C)(i) has obtained a degree from an insti-  
22 tution of higher education, or has completed at  
23 least 2 years, in good standing, of a program in  
24 the United States leading to a bachelor's degree  
25 or higher degree or a recognized postsecondary

1 credential from an area career and technical  
2 education school providing education at the  
3 postsecondary level;

4 (ii) has served in the Uniformed Services  
5 for at least 2 years and, if discharged, received  
6 an honorable discharge; or

7 (iii) demonstrates earned income for peri-  
8 ods totaling at least 3 years and at least 75  
9 percent of the time that the alien has had a  
10 valid employment authorization, except that, in  
11 the case of an alien who was enrolled in an in-  
12 stitution of higher education, an area career  
13 and technical education school to obtain a rec-  
14 ognized postsecondary credential, or an edu-  
15 cation program described in section  
16 102(b)(1)(D)(iii), the Secretary shall reduce  
17 such total 3-year requirement by the total of  
18 such periods of enrollment.

19 (2) **HARDSHIP EXCEPTION.**—The Secretary  
20 shall remove the conditional basis of an alien’s per-  
21 manent resident status and grant the alien status as  
22 an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence  
23 if the alien—

24 (A) satisfies the requirements under sub-  
25 paragraphs (A) and (B) of paragraph (1);

1 (B) demonstrates compelling circumstances  
2 for the inability to satisfy the requirements  
3 under subparagraph (C) of such paragraph; and

4 (C) demonstrates that—

5 (i) the alien has a disability;

6 (ii) the alien is a full-time caregiver;

7 or

8 (iii) the removal of the alien from the  
9 United States would result in hardship to  
10 the alien or the alien's spouse, parent, or  
11 child who is a national of the United  
12 States or is lawfully admitted for perma-  
13 nent residence.

14 (3) CITIZENSHIP REQUIREMENT.—

15 (A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in  
16 subparagraph (B), the conditional basis of an  
17 alien's permanent resident status granted under  
18 this title may not be removed unless the alien  
19 demonstrates that the alien satisfies the re-  
20 quirements under section 312(a) of the Immi-  
21 gration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1423(a)).

22 (B) EXCEPTION.—Subparagraph (A) shall  
23 not apply to an alien who is unable to meet the  
24 requirements under such section 312(a) due to  
25 disability.

1           (4) APPLICATION FEE.—The Secretary may,  
2           subject to an exemption under section 303(c), re-  
3           quire aliens applying for removal of the conditional  
4           basis of an alien’s permanent resident status under  
5           this section to pay a reasonable fee that is commensurate with the cost of processing the application.  
6

7           (5) BACKGROUND CHECKS.—The Secretary  
8           may not remove the conditional basis of an alien’s  
9           permanent resident status until the requirements of  
10          section 302 are satisfied.

11         (b) TREATMENT FOR PURPOSES OF NATURALIZA-  
12         TION.—

13           (1) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of title III of  
14           the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1401  
15           et seq.), an alien granted permanent resident status  
16           on a conditional basis shall be considered to have  
17           been admitted to the United States, and be present  
18           in the United States, as an alien lawfully admitted  
19           for permanent residence.

20           (2) LIMITATION ON APPLICATION FOR NATU-  
21           RALIZATION.—An alien may not apply for natu-  
22           ralization while the alien is in permanent resident  
23           status on a conditional basis.

24         (c) TIMING OF APPROVAL OF LAWFUL PERMANENT  
25         RESIDENT STATUS.—

1           (1) IN GENERAL.—An alien granted permanent  
2       resident status on a conditional basis under this title  
3       may apply to have such conditional basis removed at  
4       any time after such alien has met the eligibility re-  
5       quirements set forth in subsection (a).

6           (2) APPROVAL WITH REGARD TO INITIAL APPLI-  
7       CATIONS.—

8           (A) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any  
9       other provision of law, the Secretary or the At-  
10      torney General shall adjust to the status of an  
11      alien lawfully admitted for permanent resident  
12      status without conditional basis, any alien  
13      who—

14               (i) demonstrates eligibility for lawful  
15      permanent residence status on a condi-  
16      tional basis under section 102(b); and

17               (ii) subject to the exceptions described  
18      in subsections (a)(2) and (a)(3)(B) of this  
19      section, already has fulfilled the require-  
20      ments of paragraphs (1) and (3) of sub-  
21      section (a) of this section at the time such  
22      alien first submits an application for bene-  
23      fits under this title.

24           (B) BACKGROUND CHECKS.—Subsection  
25      (a)(5) shall apply to an alien seeking lawful

1 permanent resident status without conditional  
2 basis in an initial application in the same man-  
3 ner as it applies to an alien seeking removal of  
4 the conditional basis of an alien's permanent  
5 resident status. Section 102(b)(4) shall not be  
6 construed to require the Secretary to conduct  
7 more than one identical security or law enforce-  
8 ment background check on such an alien.

9 (C) APPLICATION FEES.—In the case of an  
10 alien seeking lawful permanent resident status  
11 without conditional basis in an initial applica-  
12 tion, the alien shall pay the fee required under  
13 subsection (a)(4), subject to the exemption al-  
14 lowed under section 303(c), but shall not be re-  
15 quired to pay the application fee under section  
16 102(b)(3).

17 **SEC. 105. RESTORATION OF STATE OPTION TO DETERMINE**  
18 **RESIDENCY FOR PURPOSES OF HIGHER EDU-**  
19 **CATION BENEFITS.**

20 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 505 of the Illegal Immi-  
21 gration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996  
22 (8 U.S.C. 1623) is repealed.

23 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The repeal under subsection  
24 (a) shall take effect as if included in the original enact-  
25 ment of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant



1 Responsibility Act of 1996 (division C of Public Law 104–  
2 208; 110 Stat. 3009–546).

3 **TITLE II—AMERICAN PROMISE**  
4 **ACT OF 2025**

5 **SEC. 201. SHORT TITLE.**

6 This title may be cited as the “American Promise Act  
7 of 2025”.

8 **SEC. 202. ADJUSTMENT OF STATUS FOR CERTAIN NATION-**  
9 **ALS OF CERTAIN COUNTRIES DESIGNATED**  
10 **FOR TEMPORARY PROTECTED STATUS OR**  
11 **DEFERRED ENFORCED DEPARTURE.**

12 (a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provi-  
13 sion of law, the Secretary or the Attorney General shall  
14 adjust to the status of an alien lawfully admitted for per-  
15 manent residence, an alien described in subsection (b) if  
16 the alien—

17 (1) applies for such adjustment, including sub-  
18 mitting any required documents under section 307,  
19 not later than 3 years after the date of the enact-  
20 ment of this Act;

21 (2) has been continuously physically present in  
22 the United States for a period of not less than 3  
23 years; and

24 (3) subject to subsection (c), is not inadmissible  
25 under paragraph (1), (2), (3), (6)(D), (6)(E),

1 (6)(F), (6)(G), (8), or (10) of section 212(a) of the  
2 Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C.  
3 1182(a)).

4 (b) ALIENS ELIGIBLE FOR ADJUSTMENT OF STA-  
5 TUS.—An alien shall be eligible for adjustment of status  
6 under this section if the alien is an individual—

7 (1) who—

8 (A) is a national of a foreign state (or part  
9 thereof) (or in the case of an alien having no  
10 nationality, is a person who last habitually re-  
11 sided in such state) with a designation under  
12 subsection (b) of section 244 of the Immigra-  
13 tion and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1254a(b))  
14 on January 1, 2017, who had or was otherwise  
15 eligible for temporary protected status on such  
16 date notwithstanding subsections (c)(1)(A)(iv)  
17 and (c)(3)(C) of such section; and

18 (B) has not engaged in conduct since such  
19 date that would render the alien ineligible for  
20 temporary protected status under section  
21 244(c)(2) of the Immigration and Nationality  
22 Act (8 U.S.C. 1245a(c)(2)); or

23 (2) who was eligible for Deferred Enforced De-  
24 parture as of January 20, 2021, and has not en-

1 gaged in conduct since that date that would render  
2 the alien ineligible for Deferred Enforced Departure.

3 (c) WAIVER OF GROUNDS OF INADMISSIBILITY.—

4 (1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in para-  
5 graph (2), with respect to any benefit under this  
6 title, and in addition to any waivers that are other-  
7 wise available, the Secretary may waive the grounds  
8 of inadmissibility under paragraph (1), subpara-  
9 graphs (A), (C), and (D) of paragraph (2), subpara-  
10 graphs (D) through (G) of paragraph (6), or para-  
11 graph (10)(D) of section 212(a) of the Immigration  
12 and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1182(a)) for humani-  
13 tarian purposes, for family unity, or because the  
14 waiver is otherwise in the public interest.

15 (2) EXCEPTION.—The Secretary may not waive  
16 a ground described in paragraph (1) if such inad-  
17 missibility is based on a conviction or convictions,  
18 and such conviction or convictions would otherwise  
19 render the alien ineligible under section  
20 244(c)(2)(B) of the Immigration and Nationality  
21 Act (8 U.S.C. 1254a(c)(2)(B)).

22 (d) APPLICATION.—

23 (1) FEE.—The Secretary shall, subject to an  
24 exemption under section 303(c), require an alien ap-  
25 plying for adjustment of status under this section to

1       pay a reasonable fee that is commensurate with the  
2       cost of processing the application, but does not ex-  
3       ceed \$1,140.

4           (2) BACKGROUND CHECKS.—The Secretary  
5       may not grant an alien permanent resident status on  
6       a conditional basis under this section until the re-  
7       quirements of section 302 are satisfied.

8           (3) WITHDRAWAL OF APPLICATION.—The Sec-  
9       retary of Homeland Security shall, upon receipt of  
10      a request to withdraw an application for adjustment  
11      of status under this section, cease processing of the  
12      application and close the case. Withdrawal of the ap-  
13      plication under this subsection shall not prejudice  
14      any future application filed by the applicant for any  
15      immigration benefit under this title or under the Im-  
16      migration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101 et  
17      seq.).

18   **SEC. 203. CLARIFICATION.**

19       Section 244(f)(4) of the Immigration and Nationality  
20   Act (8 U.S.C. 1254a(f)(4)) is amended by inserting after  
21   “considered” the following: “as having been inspected and  
22   admitted into the United States, and”.

# **TITLE III—GENERAL PROVISIONS**

## **3 SEC. 301. DEFINITIONS.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—In this Act:

5 (1) IN GENERAL.—Except as otherwise specifi-  
6 cally provided, any term used in this Act that is  
7 used in the immigration laws shall have the meaning  
8 given such term in the immigration laws.

9 (2) APPROPRIATE UNITED STATES DISTRICT  
10 COURT.—The term “appropriate United States dis-  
11 trict court” means the United States District Court  
12 for the District of Columbia or the United States  
13 district court with jurisdiction over the alien’s prin-  
14 cipal place of residence.

15 (3) AREA CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION  
16 SCHOOL.—The term “area career and technical edu-  
17 cation school” has the meaning given such term in  
18 section 3 of the Carl D. Perkins Career and Tech-  
19 nical Education Act of 2006 (20 U.S.C. 2302).

20 (4) DACA.—The term “DACA” means de-  
21 ferred action granted to an alien pursuant to the  
22 Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals policy an-  
23 nounced by the Secretary of Homeland Security on  
24 June 15, 2012.

1           (5) DISABILITY.—The term “disability” has the  
2           meaning given such term in section 3(1) of the  
3           Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C.  
4           12102(1)).

5           (6) FEDERAL POVERTY LINE.—The term “Fed-  
6           eral poverty line” has the meaning given such term  
7           in section 213A(h) of the Immigration and Nation-  
8           ality Act (8 U.S.C. 1183a).

9           (7) HIGH SCHOOL; SECONDARY SCHOOL.—The  
10          terms “high school” and “secondary school” have  
11          the meanings given such terms in section 8101 of  
12          the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of  
13          1965 (20 U.S.C. 7801).

14          (8) IMMIGRATION LAWS.—The term “immigra-  
15          tion laws” has the meaning given such term in sec-  
16          tion 101(a)(17) of the Immigration and Nationality  
17          Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(17)).

18          (9) INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—The  
19          term “institution of higher education”—

20                 (A) except as provided in subparagraph  
21                 (B), has the meaning given such term in section  
22                 102 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20  
23                 U.S.C. 1002); and

24                 (B) does not include an institution of high-  
25                 er education outside of the United States.

(10) RECOGNIZED POSTSECONDARY CREDENTIAL.—The term “recognized postsecondary credential” has the meaning given such term in section 3 of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3102).

(11) SECRETARY.—Except as otherwise specifically provided, the term “Secretary” means the Secretary of Homeland Security.

9 (12) UNIFORMED SERVICES.—The term “Uni-  
10 formed Services” has the meaning given the term  
11 “uniformed services” in section 101(a) of title 10,  
12 United States Code.

(b) TREATMENT OF EXPUNGED CONVICTIONS.—For purposes of adjustment of status under this Act, the terms “convicted” and “conviction”, as used in this Act and in sections 212 and 244 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1182, 1254a), do not include a judgment that has been expunged or set aside, that resulted in a rehabilitative disposition, or the equivalent.

20 SEC. 302. SUBMISSION OF BIOMETRIC AND BIOGRAPHIC  
21 DATA; BACKGROUND CHECKS.

(a) SUBMISSION OF BIOMETRIC AND BIOGRAPHIC DATA.—The Secretary may not grant an alien adjustment of status under this Act, on either a conditional or permanent basis, unless the alien submits biometric and bio-

1 graphic data, in accordance with procedures established  
2 by the Secretary. The Secretary shall provide an alter-  
3 native procedure for aliens who are unable to provide such  
4 biometric or biographic data because of a physical impair-  
5 ment.

6 (b) BACKGROUND CHECKS.—The Secretary shall use  
7 biometric, biographic, and other data that the Secretary  
8 determines appropriate to conduct security and law en-  
9 forcement background checks and to determine whether  
10 there is any criminal, national security, or other factor  
11 that would render the alien ineligible for adjustment of  
12 status under this Act, on either a conditional or perma-  
13 nent basis. The status of an alien may not be adjusted,  
14 on either a conditional or permanent basis, unless security  
15 and law enforcement background checks are completed to  
16 the satisfaction of the Secretary.

17 **SEC. 303. LIMITATION ON REMOVAL; APPLICATION AND**  
18 **FEE EXEMPTION; AND OTHER CONDITIONS**  
19 **ON ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUALS.**

20 (a) LIMITATION ON REMOVAL.—An alien who ap-  
21 pears to be prima facie eligible for relief under this Act  
22 shall be given a reasonable opportunity to apply for such  
23 relief and may not be removed until, subject to section  
24 306(c)(2), a final decision establishing ineligibility for re-  
25 lief is rendered.



1       (b) APPLICATION.—An alien present in the United  
2 States who has been ordered removed or has been per-  
3 mitted to depart voluntarily from the United States may,  
4 notwithstanding such order or permission to depart, apply  
5 for adjustment of status under this Act. Such alien shall  
6 not be required to file a separate motion to reopen, recon-  
7 sider, or vacate the order of removal. If the Secretary ap-  
8 proves the application, the Secretary shall cancel the order  
9 of removal. If the Secretary renders a final administrative  
10 decision to deny the application, the order of removal or  
11 permission to depart shall be effective and enforceable to  
12 the same extent as if the application had not been made,  
13 only after all available administrative and judicial rem-  
14 edies have been exhausted.

15       (c) FEE EXEMPTION.—An applicant may be exempt-  
16 ed from paying an application fee required under this Act  
17 if the applicant—

18               (1) is 18 years of age or younger;

19               (2) received total income, during the 12-month  
20 period immediately preceding the date on which the  
21 applicant files an application under this Act, that is  
22 less than 150 percent of the Federal poverty line;

23               (3) is in foster care or otherwise lacks any pa-  
24 rental or other familial support; or

1           (4) cannot care for himself or herself because of  
2           a serious, chronic disability.

3           (d) ADVANCE PAROLE.—During the period beginning  
4 on the date on which an alien applies for adjustment of  
5 status under this Act and ending on the date on which  
6 the Secretary makes a final decision regarding such appli-  
7 cation, the alien shall be eligible to apply for advance pa-  
8 role. Section 101(g) of the Immigration and Nationality  
9 Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(g)) shall not apply to an alien granted  
10 advance parole under this Act.

11          (e) EMPLOYMENT.—An alien whose removal is stayed  
12 pursuant to this Act, who may not be placed in removal  
13 proceedings pursuant to this Act, or who has pending an  
14 application under this Act, shall, upon application to the  
15 Secretary, be granted an employment authorization docu-  
16 ment.

17 **SEC. 304. DETERMINATION OF CONTINUOUS PRESENCE**  
18 **AND RESIDENCE.**

19          (a) EFFECT OF NOTICE TO APPEAR.—Any period of  
20 continuous physical presence or continuous residence in  
21 the United States of an alien who applies for permanent  
22 resident status under this Act (whether on a conditional  
23 basis or without the conditional basis as provided in sec-  
24 tion 104(c)(2)) shall not terminate when the alien is

1 served a notice to appear under section 239(a) of the Im-  
2 migration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1229(a)).

3 (b) TREATMENT OF CERTAIN BREAKS IN PRESENCE  
4 OR RESIDENCE.—

5 (1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in para-  
6 graphs (2) and (3), an alien shall be considered to  
7 have failed to maintain—

8 (A) continuous physical presence in the  
9 United States under this Act if the alien has  
10 departed from the United States for any period  
11 exceeding 90 days or for any periods, in the ag-  
12 gregate, exceeding 180 days; and

13 (B) continuous residence in the United  
14 States under this Act if the alien has departed  
15 from the United States for any period exceeding  
16 180 days, unless the alien establishes to the  
17 satisfaction of the Secretary of Homeland Secu-  
18 rity that the alien did not in fact abandon resi-  
19 dence in the United States during such period.

20 (2) EXTENSIONS FOR EXTENUATING CIR-  
21 CUMSTANCES.—The Secretary may extend the time  
22 periods described in paragraph (1) for an alien who  
23 demonstrates that the failure to timely return to the  
24 United States was due to extenuating circumstances  
25 beyond the alien's control, including—

1 (A) the serious illness of the alien;

2 (B) death or serious illness of a parent,  
3 grandparent, sibling, or child of the alien;

4 (C) processing delays associated with the  
5 application process for a visa or other travel  
6 document; or

7 (D) restrictions on international travel due  
8 to the public health emergency declared by the  
9 Secretary of Health and Human Services under  
10 section 319 of the Public Health Service Act  
11 (42 U.S.C. 247d) with respect to COVID–19.

12 (3) TRAVEL AUTHORIZED BY THE SEC-  
13 RETARY.—Any period of travel outside of the United  
14 States by an alien that was authorized by the Sec-  
15 retary may not be counted toward any period of de-  
16 parture from the United States under paragraph  
17 (1).

18 (c) WAIVER OF PHYSICAL PRESENCE.—With respect  
19 to aliens who were removed or departed the United States  
20 on or after January 20, 2017, and who were continuously  
21 physically present in the United States for at least 4 years  
22 prior to such removal or departure, the Secretary may,  
23 as a matter of discretion, waive the physical presence re-  
24 quirement under section 102(b)(1)(A) or section  
25 202(a)(2) for humanitarian purposes, for family unity, or

1 because a waiver is otherwise in the public interest. The  
2 Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of State,  
3 shall establish a procedure for such aliens to apply for re-  
4 lief under section 102 or 202 from outside the United  
5 States if they would have been eligible for relief under  
6 such section, but for their removal or departure.

7 **SEC. 305. EXEMPTION FROM NUMERICAL LIMITATIONS.**

8 Nothing in this Act or in any other law may be con-  
9 strued to apply a numerical limitation on the number of  
10 aliens who may be granted permanent resident status  
11 under this Act (whether on a conditional basis, or without  
12 the conditional basis as provided in section 104(c)(2)).

13 **SEC. 306. AVAILABILITY OF ADMINISTRATIVE AND JUDI-**  
14 **CIAL REVIEW.**

15 (a) ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW.—Not later than 30  
16 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Sec-  
17 retary shall provide to aliens who have applied for adjust-  
18 ment of status under this Act a process by which an appli-  
19 cant may seek administrative appellate review of a denial  
20 of an application for adjustment of status, or a revocation  
21 of such status.

22 (b) JUDICIAL REVIEW.—Except as provided in sub-  
23 section (c), and notwithstanding any other provision of  
24 law, an alien may seek judicial review of a denial of an  
25 application for adjustment of status, or a revocation of

1 such status, under this Act in an appropriate United  
2 States district court.

3 (c) STAY OF REMOVAL.—

4 (1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in para-  
5 graph (2), an alien seeking administrative or judicial  
6 review under this Act may not be removed from the  
7 United States until a final decision is rendered es-  
8 tablishing that the alien is ineligible for adjustment  
9 of status under this Act.

10 (2) EXCEPTION.—The Secretary may remove  
11 an alien described in paragraph (1) pending judicial  
12 review if such removal is based on criminal or na-  
13 tional security grounds described in this Act. Such  
14 removal shall not affect the alien's right to judicial  
15 review under this Act. The Secretary shall promptly  
16 return a removed alien if a decision to deny an ap-  
17 plication for adjustment of status under this Act, or  
18 to revoke such status, is reversed.

19 **SEC. 307. DOCUMENTATION REQUIREMENTS.**

20 (a) DOCUMENTS ESTABLISHING IDENTITY.—An  
21 alien's application for permanent resident status under  
22 this Act (whether on a conditional basis, or without the  
23 conditional basis as provided in section 104(c)(2)) may in-  
24 clude, as evidence of identity, the following:

1           (1) A passport or national identity document  
2           from the alien's country of origin that includes the  
3           alien's name and the alien's photograph or finger-  
4           print.

5           (2) The alien's birth certificate and an identity  
6           card that includes the alien's name and photograph.

7           (3) A school identification card that includes  
8           the alien's name and photograph, and school records  
9           showing the alien's name and that the alien is or  
10          was enrolled at the school.

11          (4) A Uniformed Services identification card  
12          issued by the Department of Defense.

13          (5) Any immigration or other document issued  
14          by the United States Government bearing the alien's  
15          name and photograph.

16          (6) A State-issued identification card bearing  
17          the alien's name and photograph.

18          (7) Any other evidence determined to be cred-  
19          ible by the Secretary.

20          (b) DOCUMENTS ESTABLISHING ENTRY, CONTIN-  
21          UOUS PHYSICAL PRESENCE, LACK OF ABANDONMENT OF  
22          RESIDENCE.—To establish that an alien was 18 years of  
23          age or younger on the date on which the alien entered  
24          the United States, and has continuously resided in the  
25          United States since such entry, as required under section

1 102(b)(1)(B), that an alien has been continuously phys-  
2 ically present in the United States, as required under sec-  
3 tion 102(b)(1)(A) or 202(a)(2), or that an alien has not  
4 abandoned residence in the United States, as required  
5 under section 104(a)(1)(B), the alien may submit the fol-  
6 lowing forms of evidence:

7 (1) Passport entries, including admission  
8 stamps on the alien's passport.

9 (2) Any document from the Department of Jus-  
10 tice or the Department of Homeland Security noting  
11 the alien's date of entry into the United States.

12 (3) Records from any educational institution  
13 the alien has attended in the United States.

14 (4) Employment records of the alien that in-  
15 clude the employer's name and contact information,  
16 or other records demonstrating earned income.

17 (5) Records of service from the Uniformed  
18 Services.

19 (6) Official records from a religious entity con-  
20 firming the alien's participation in a religious cere-  
21 mony.

22 (7) A birth certificate for a child who was born  
23 in the United States.

24 (8) Hospital or medical records showing med-  
25 ical treatment or hospitalization, the name of the



1 medical facility or physician, and the date of the  
2 treatment or hospitalization.

3 (9) Automobile license receipts or registration.

4 (10) Deeds, mortgages, or rental agreement  
5 contracts.

6 (11) Rent receipts or utility bills bearing the  
7 alien's name or the name of an immediate family  
8 member of the alien, and the alien's address.

9 (12) Tax receipts.

10 (13) Insurance policies.

11 (14) Remittance records, including copies of  
12 money order receipts sent in or out of the country.

13 (15) Travel records.

14 (16) Dated bank transactions.

15 (17) Two or more sworn affidavits from individ-  
16 uals who are not related to the alien who have direct  
17 knowledge of the alien's continuous physical pres-  
18 ence in the United States, that contain—

19 (A) the name, address, and telephone num-  
20 ber of the affiant; and

21 (B) the nature and duration of the rela-  
22 tionship between the affiant and the alien.

23 (18) Any other evidence determined to be cred-  
24 ible by the Secretary.

1 (c) DOCUMENTS ESTABLISHING ADMISSION TO AN  
2 INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—To establish that  
3 an alien has been admitted to an institution of higher edu-  
4 cation, the alien may submit to the Secretary a document  
5 from the institution of higher education certifying that the  
6 alien—

7 (1) has been admitted to the institution; or  
8 (2) is currently enrolled in the institution as a  
9 student.

10 (d) DOCUMENTS ESTABLISHING RECEIPT OF A DE-  
11 GREE FROM AN INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—  
12 To establish that an alien has acquired a degree from an  
13 institution of higher education in the United States, the  
14 alien may submit to the Secretary a diploma or other doc-  
15 ument from the institution stating that the alien has re-  
16 ceived such a degree.

17 (e) DOCUMENTS ESTABLISHING RECEIPT OF A HIGH  
18 SCHOOL DIPLOMA, GENERAL EDUCATIONAL DEVELOP-  
19 MENT CREDENTIAL, OR A RECOGNIZED EQUIVALENT.—  
20 To establish that in the United States an alien has earned  
21 a high school diploma or a commensurate alternative  
22 award from a public or private high school, has obtained  
23 the General Education Development credential, or other-  
24 wise has satisfied section 102(b)(1)(D)(iii), the alien may  
25 submit to the Secretary the following:

1           (1) A high school diploma, certificate of comple-  
2           tion, or other alternate award.

3           (2) A high school equivalency diploma or certifi-  
4           cate recognized under State law.

5           (3) Evidence that the alien passed a State-au-  
6           thorized exam, including the General Education De-  
7           velopment test, in the United States.

8           (4) Evidence that the alien successfully com-  
9           pleted an area career and technical education pro-  
10          gram, such as a certification, certificate, or similar  
11          alternate award.

12          (5) Evidence that the alien obtained a recog-  
13          nized postsecondary credential.

14          (6) Any other evidence determined to be cred-  
15          ible by the Secretary.

16          (f) DOCUMENTS ESTABLISHING ENROLLMENT IN AN  
17          EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM.—To establish that an alien is  
18          enrolled in any school or education program described in  
19          section 102(b)(1)(D)(iv) or 104(a)(1)(C), the alien may  
20          submit school records from the United States school that  
21          the alien is currently attending that include—

22                (1) the name of the school; and

23                (2) the alien's name, periods of attendance, and  
24          current grade or educational level.

1       (g) DOCUMENTS ESTABLISHING EXEMPTION FROM  
2 APPLICATION FEES.—To establish that an alien is exempt  
3 from an application fee under this Act, the alien may sub-  
4 mit to the Secretary the following relevant documents:

5           (1) DOCUMENTS TO ESTABLISH AGE.—To es-  
6 tablish that an alien meets an age requirement, the  
7 alien may provide proof of identity, as described in  
8 subsection (a), that establishes that the alien is 18  
9 years of age or younger.

10          (2) DOCUMENTS TO ESTABLISH INCOME.—To  
11 establish the alien’s income, the alien may provide—

12           (A) employment records or other records of  
13 earned income, including records that have been  
14 maintained by the Social Security Administra-  
15 tion, the Internal Revenue Service, or any other  
16 Federal, State, or local government agency;

17           (B) bank records; or

18           (C) at least two sworn affidavits from indi-  
19 viduals who are not related to the alien and  
20 who have direct knowledge of the alien’s work  
21 and income that contain—

22           (i) the name, address, and telephone  
23 number of the affiant; and

1 (ii) the nature and duration of the re-  
2 lationship between the affiant and the  
3 alien.

4 (3) DOCUMENTS TO ESTABLISH FOSTER CARE,  
5 LACK OF FAMILIAL SUPPORT, OR SERIOUS, CHRONIC  
6 DISABILITY.—To establish that the alien is in foster  
7 care, lacks parental or familial support, or has a se-  
8 rious, chronic disability, the alien may provide at  
9 least two sworn affidavits from individuals who are  
10 not related to the alien and who have direct knowl-  
11 edge of the circumstances that contain—

12 (A) a statement that the alien is in foster  
13 care, otherwise lacks any parental or other fa-  
14 miliar support, or has a serious, chronic dis-  
15 ability, as appropriate;

16 (B) the name, address, and telephone num-  
17 ber of the affiant; and

18 (C) the nature and duration of the rela-  
19 tionship between the affiant and the alien.

20 (h) DOCUMENTS ESTABLISHING QUALIFICATION FOR  
21 HARDSHIP EXEMPTION.—To establish that an alien satis-  
22 fies one of the criteria for the hardship exemption set forth  
23 in section 104(a)(2)(C), the alien may submit to the Sec-  
24 retary at least two sworn affidavits from individuals who  
25 are not related to the alien and who have direct knowledge

1 of the circumstances that warrant the exemption, that  
2 contain—

3 (1) the name, address, and telephone number of  
4 the affiant; and

5 (2) the nature and duration of the relationship  
6 between the affiant and the alien.

7 (i) DOCUMENTS ESTABLISHING SERVICE IN THE  
8 UNIFORMED SERVICES.—To establish that an alien has  
9 served in the Uniformed Services for at least 2 years and,  
10 if discharged, received an honorable discharge, the alien  
11 may submit to the Secretary—

12 (1) a Department of Defense form DD-214;

13 (2) a National Guard Report of Separation and  
14 Record of Service form 22;

15 (3) personnel records for such service from the  
16 appropriate Uniformed Service; or

17 (4) health records from the appropriate Uni-  
18 formed Service.

19 (j) DOCUMENTS ESTABLISHING EARNED INCOME.—

20 (1) IN GENERAL.—An alien may satisfy the  
21 earned income requirement under section  
22 104(a)(1)(C)(iii) by submitting records that—

23 (A) establish compliance with such require-  
24 ment; and

1 (B) have been maintained by the Social Se-  
2 curity Administration, the Internal Revenue  
3 Service, or any other Federal, State, or local  
4 government agency.

5 (2) OTHER DOCUMENTS.—An alien who is un-  
6 able to submit the records described in paragraph  
7 (1) may satisfy the earned income requirement by  
8 submitting at least two types of reliable documents  
9 that provide evidence of employment or other forms  
10 of earned income, including—

11 (A) bank records;

12 (B) business records;

13 (C) employer or contractor records;

14 (D) records of a labor union, day labor  
15 center, or organization that assists workers in  
16 employment;

17 (E) sworn affidavits from individuals who  
18 are not related to the alien and who have direct  
19 knowledge of the alien's work, that contain—

20 (i) the name, address, and telephone  
21 number of the affiant; and

22 (ii) the nature and duration of the re-  
23 lationship between the affiant and the  
24 alien;

25 (F) remittance records; or

1 (G) any other evidence determined to be  
2 credible by the Secretary.

3 (k) **AUTHORITY TO PROHIBIT USE OF CERTAIN**  
4 **DOCUMENTS.**—If the Secretary determines, after publica-  
5 tion in the Federal Register and an opportunity for public  
6 comment, that any document or class of documents does  
7 not reliably establish identity or that permanent resident  
8 status under this Act (whether on a conditional basis, or  
9 without the conditional basis as provided in section  
10 104(c)(2)) is being obtained fraudulently to an unaccept-  
11 able degree, the Secretary may prohibit or restrict the use  
12 of such document or class of documents.

13 **SEC. 308. RULEMAKING.**

14 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 90 days after the  
15 date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall pub-  
16 lish in the Federal Register interim final rules imple-  
17 menting this Act, which shall allow eligible individuals to  
18 immediately apply for relief under this Act. Notwith-  
19 standing section 553 of title 5, United States Code, the  
20 regulation shall be effective, on an interim basis, imme-  
21 diately upon publication, but may be subject to change and  
22 revision after public notice and opportunity for a period  
23 of public comment. The Secretary shall finalize such rules  
24 not later than 180 days after the date of publication.



1 (b) PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT.—The require-  
2 ments under chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code,  
3 (commonly known as the “Paperwork Reduction Act”)  
4 shall not apply to any action to implement this Act.

5 **SEC. 309. CONFIDENTIALITY OF INFORMATION.**

6 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may not disclose  
7 or use information (including information provided during  
8 administrative or judicial review) provided in applications  
9 filed under this Act or in requests for DACA for the pur-  
10 pose of immigration enforcement.

11 (b) REFERRALS PROHIBITED.—The Secretary, based  
12 solely on information provided in an application for adjust-  
13 ment of status under this Act (including information pro-  
14 vided during administrative or judicial review) or an appli-  
15 cation for DACA, may not refer an applicant to U.S. Im-  
16 migration and Customs Enforcement, U.S. Customs and  
17 Border Protection, or any designee of either such entity.

18 (c) LIMITED EXCEPTION.—Notwithstanding sub-  
19 sections (a) and (b), information provided in an applica-  
20 tion for adjustment of status under this Act may be  
21 shared with Federal security and law enforcement agen-  
22 cies—

23 (1) for assistance in the consideration of an ap-  
24 plication for adjustment of status under this Act;

25 (2) to identify or prevent fraudulent claims;

1 (3) for national security purposes; or

2 (4) for the investigation or prosecution of any  
3 felony offense not related to immigration status.

4 (d) PENALTY.—Any person who knowingly uses, pub-  
5 lishes, or permits information to be examined in violation  
6 of this section shall be fined not more than \$10,000.

7 **SEC. 310. GRANT PROGRAM TO ASSIST ELIGIBLE APPLI-**  
8 **CANTS.**

9 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall establish,  
10 within U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, a pro-  
11 gram to award grants, on a competitive basis, to eligible  
12 nonprofit organizations that will use the funding to assist  
13 eligible applicants under this Act by providing them with  
14 the services described in subsection (b).

15 (b) USE OF FUNDS.—Grant funds awarded under  
16 this section shall be used for the design and implementa-  
17 tion of programs that provide—

18 (1) information to the public regarding the eli-  
19 gibility and benefits of permanent resident status  
20 under this Act (whether on a conditional basis, or  
21 without the conditional basis as provided in section  
22 104(c)(2)), particularly to individuals potentially eli-  
23 gible for such status;

24 (2) assistance, within the scope of authorized  
25 practice of immigration law, to individuals submit-

1       ting applications for adjustment of status under this  
2       Act (whether on a conditional basis, or without the  
3       conditional basis as provided in section 104(c)(2)),  
4       including—

5               (A) screening prospective applicants to as-  
6               sess their eligibility for such status;

7               (B) completing applications and petitions,  
8               including providing assistance in obtaining the  
9               requisite documents and supporting evidence;  
10              and

11             (C) providing any other assistance that the  
12             Secretary or grantee considers useful or nec-  
13             essary to apply for adjustment of status under  
14             this Act (whether on a conditional basis, or  
15             without the conditional basis as provided in sec-  
16             tion 104(c)(2)); and

17             (3) assistance, within the scope of authorized  
18             practice of immigration law, and instruction, to indi-  
19             viduals—

20               (A) on the rights and responsibilities of  
21               United States citizenship;

22               (B) in civics and English as a second lan-  
23               guage;

24               (C) in preparation for the General Edu-  
25               cation Development test; and

1 (D) in applying for adjustment of status  
2 and United States citizenship.

3 (c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

4 (1) AMOUNTS AUTHORIZED.—There are author-  
5 ized to be appropriated such sums as may be nec-  
6 essary for each of the fiscal years 2026 through  
7 2036 to carry out this section.

8 (2) AVAILABILITY.—Any amounts appropriated  
9 pursuant to paragraph (1) shall remain available  
10 until expended.

11 **SEC. 311. PROVISIONS AFFECTING ELIGIBILITY FOR AD-**  
12 **JUSTMENT OF STATUS.**

13 An alien's eligibility to be lawfully admitted for per-  
14 manent residence under this Act (whether on a conditional  
15 basis, or without the conditional basis as provided in sec-  
16 tion 104(c)(2)) shall not preclude the alien from seeking  
17 any status under any other provision of law for which the  
18 alien may otherwise be eligible.

19 **SEC. 312. SUPPLEMENTARY SURCHARGE FOR APPOINTED**  
20 **COUNSEL.**

21 (a) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in section 302  
22 and in cases where the applicant is exempt from paying  
23 a fee under section 303(c), in any case in which a fee is  
24 charged pursuant to this Act, an additional surcharge of  
25 \$25 shall be imposed and collected for the purpose of pro-

1 viding appointed counsel to applicants seeking judicial re-  
2 view of the Secretary's decision to provisionally deny an  
3 application under this Act.

4 (b) IMMIGRATION COUNSEL ACCOUNT.—There is es-  
5 tablished in the general fund of the Treasury a separate  
6 account which shall be known as the “Immigration Coun-  
7 sel Account”. Fees collected under subsection (a) shall be  
8 deposited into the Immigration Counsel Account and shall  
9 remain available until expended for purposes of providing  
10 appointed counsel as required under this Act.

11 (c) REPORT.—At the end of each 2-year period, be-  
12 ginning with the establishment of this account, the Sec-  
13 retary of Homeland Security shall submit a report to the  
14 Congress concerning the status of the account, including  
15 any balances therein, and recommend any adjustment in  
16 the prescribed fee that may be required to ensure that the  
17 receipts collected from the fee charged for the succeeding  
18 two years equal, as closely as possible, the cost of pro-  
19 viding appointed counsel as required under this Act.

20 **SEC. 313. ANNUAL REPORT ON PROVISIONAL DENIAL AU-**  
21 **THORITY.**

22 Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment  
23 of this Act, and annually thereafter, the Secretary of  
24 Homeland Security shall submit to the Congress a report  
25 detailing the number of applicants that receive—

- 1           (1) a provisional denial under this Act;
- 2           (2) a final denial under this Act without seek-
- 3           ing judicial review;
- 4           (3) a final denial under this Act after seeking
- 5           judicial review; and
- 6           (4) an approval under this Act after seeking ju-
- 7           dicial review.