

105TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1416

To amend title IV of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 restricting welfare and public benefits for aliens to provide an exception to limited eligibility for SSI and food stamps programs for permanent resident aliens who are applicants for naturalization.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 23, 1997

Mrs. JOHNSON of Connecticut introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Agriculture, 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 amend title IV of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 restricting welfare and public benefits for aliens to provide an exception to limited eligibility for SSI and food stamps programs for permanent resident aliens who are applicants for naturalization.

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

1 **SECTION 1. EXCEPTION TO LIMITED ELIGIBILITY FOR SSI**
2 **AND FOOD STAMPS FOR PERMANENT RESI-**
3 **DENT ALIENS WHO ARE APPLICANTS FOR**
4 **NATURALIZATION.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 402(a)(2) of the Personal
6 Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act
7 of 1996 (8 U.S.C. 1612(a)(2)) is amended by inserting
8 after subparagraph (D) the following new subparagraph:

9 “(E) APPLICANTS FOR NATURALIZATION
10 CURRENTLY RECEIVING SSI.—Paragraph (1)
11 shall not apply to an alien who—

12 “(i) is receiving benefits under the
13 program described in paragraph (3)(A) on
14 the date of the enactment of this Act;

15 “(ii) is lawfully admitted to the
16 United States for permanent residence
17 under the Immigration and Nationality
18 Act;

19 “(iii) has fulfilled the residency re-
20 quirement for naturalization under the Im-
21 migration and Nationality Act; and

22 “(iv) has filed a valid application for
23 naturalization under the Immigration and
24 Nationality Act which is active and pend-
25 ing or has been granted.”.

1 (b) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendment made by
2 subsection (a) shall be effective as if included in the enact-
3 ment of title IV of the Personal Responsibility and Work
4 Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996.

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