

Calendar No. 784

106TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

**H. R. 4681**

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATE

JULY 12, 2000

Received

JULY 27, 2000

Read the first time

SEPTEMBER 5, 2000

Read the second time and placed on the calendar

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## **AN ACT**

To provide for the adjustment of status of certain Syrian  
nationals.

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. FINDINGS.**

4       The Congress finds as follows:

1           (1) President Bush and President Clinton suc-  
2           cessively conducted successful negotiations with the  
3           Government of Syria to bring about the release of  
4           members of the Syrian Jewish population and their  
5           immigration to the United States.

6           (2) In order to accommodate the Syrian Gov-  
7           ernment, the United States was required to admit  
8           these aliens by first granting them temporary non-  
9           immigrant visas and subsequently granting them  
10          asylum, rather than admitting them as refugees (as  
11          is ordinarily done when the United States grants  
12          refuge to members of a persecuted alien minority  
13          group).

14          (3) The asylee status of these aliens has re-  
15          sulted in a long and unnecessary delay in their ad-  
16          justment to lawful permanent resident status that  
17          would not have been encountered had they been ad-  
18          mitted as refugees.

19          (4) This delay has impaired these aliens' ability  
20          to work in their chosen professions, travel freely,  
21          and apply for naturalization.

22          (5) The Attorney General should act without  
23          further delay to grant lawful permanent resident  
24          status to these aliens in accordance with section 2.

1 **SEC. 2. ADJUSTMENT OF STATUS OF CERTAIN SYRIAN NA-**  
2 **TIONALS.**

3 (a) ADJUSTMENT OF STATUS.—Subject to subsection  
4 (c), the Attorney General shall adjust the status of an  
5 alien described in subsection (b) to that of an alien law-  
6 fully admitted for permanent residence, if the alien—

7 (1) applies for adjustment of status under this  
8 section not later than 1 year after the date of the  
9 enactment of this Act or applied for adjustment of  
10 status under the Immigration and Nationality Act  
11 before the date of the enactment of this Act;

12 (2) has been physically present in the United  
13 States for at least 1 year after being granted asy-  
14 lum;

15 (3) is not firmly resettled in any foreign coun-  
16 try; and

17 (4) is admissible as an immigrant under the  
18 Immigration and Nationality Act at the time of ex-  
19 amination for adjustment of such alien.

20 (b) ALIENS ELIGIBLE FOR ADJUSTMENT OF STA-  
21 TUS.—The benefits provided by subsection (a) shall apply  
22 to any alien—

23 (1) who—

24 (A) is a Jewish national of Syria;

1 (B) arrived in the United States after De-  
2 cember 31, 1991, after being permitted by the  
3 Syrian Government to depart from Syria; and

4 (C) is physically present in the United  
5 States at the time of filing the application de-  
6 scribed in subsection (a)(1); or

7 (2) who is the spouse, child, or unmarried son  
8 or daughter of an alien described in paragraph (1).

9 (c) NUMERICAL LIMITATION.—The total number of  
10 aliens whose status may be adjusted under this section  
11 may not exceed 2,000.

12 (d) RECORD OF PERMANENT RESIDENCE.—Upon  
13 approval of an application for adjustment of status under  
14 this section, the Attorney General shall establish a record  
15 of the alien's admission for lawful permanent residence as  
16 of the date 1 year before the date of the approval of the  
17 application.

18 (e) AVAILABILITY OF ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW.—  
19 The Attorney General shall provide to applicants for ad-  
20 justment of status under subsection (a) the same right to,  
21 and procedures for, administrative review as are provided  
22 to applicants for adjustment of status under section  
23 209(b) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C.  
24 1159(b)).

1       (f) NO OFFSET IN NUMBER OF VISAS AVAILABLE.—  
2 Whenever an alien is granted the status of having been  
3 lawfully admitted for permanent residence pursuant to  
4 this section, the Secretary of State shall not be required  
5 to reduce the number of immigrant visas authorized to be  
6 issued under any provision of the Immigration and Na-  
7 tionality Act.

8       (g) APPLICATION OF IMMIGRATION AND NATION-  
9 ALITY ACT PROVISIONS.—The definitions contained in the  
10 Immigration and Nationality Act shall apply in the admin-  
11 istration of this section. The fact that an alien may be  
12 eligible to be granted the status of having been lawfully  
13 admitted for permanent residence under this section shall  
14 not preclude the alien from seeking such status under any  
15 other provision of law for which the alien may be eligible.

Passed the House of Representatives July 11, 2000.

Attest:

JEFF TRANDAHL,

*Clerk.*

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