

107TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1733

To develop and implement a unified electronic data system to enhance access to information that is relevant to determine whether to issue a visa or admit an alien to the United States, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

NOVEMBER 27, 2001

Mr. EDWARDS introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To develop and implement a unified electronic data system to enhance access to information that is relevant to determine whether to issue a visa or admit an alien to the United States, 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 “Name Matching for
5 Enforcement and Security Act of 2001”.

1 **SEC. 2. INTEROPERABLE LAW ENFORCEMENT AND INTEL-**
2 **LIGENCE DATA SYSTEM WITH NAME MATCH-**
3 **ING CAPACITY AND TRAINING.**

4 (a) UNIFIED ELECTRONIC DATA SYSTEM.—Not later
5 than 18 months after the date of enactment of this Act,
6 the Secretary of State, the Attorney General, the Sec-
7 retary of the Treasury, the Commissioner of Immigration
8 and Naturalization, and the Director of Central Intel-
9 ligence shall develop and implement a unified electronic
10 data system to provide current and immediate access to
11 information in databases of United States law enforce-
12 ment agencies and the intelligence community that is rel-
13 evant to determine whether to issue a visa or to determine
14 the admissibility of an alien to the United States.

15 (b) NAME SEARCH CAPACITY AND SUPPORT.—

16 (1) IN GENERAL.—The unified electronic data
17 system required by subsection (a) shall—

18 (A) have the capacity to match names even
19 when those names are entered and stored in
20 different fields within the different databases
21 referred to in subsection (a);

22 (B) be searchable on a linguistically sen-
23 sitive basis;

24 (C) provide adequate user support;

25 (D) be developed in consultation with pri-
26 vate sector firms;

1 (E) to the extent practicable, utilize com-
2 mercially available platforms; and

3 (F) be adjusted and improved, based upon
4 experience with the databases and improve-
5 ments in the underlying technologies and
6 sciences, on a continuing basis.

7 (2) LINGUISTICALLY SENSITIVE SEARCHES.—

8 (A) IN GENERAL.—To satisfy the require-
9 ment of paragraph (1)(B), the unified electronic
10 database shall be searchable based on linguis-
11 tically sensitive algorithms that—

12 (i) account for variations in name for-
13 mats and transliterations, including varied
14 spellings and varied separation or combina-
15 tion of name elements, within a particular
16 language; and

17 (ii) incorporate advanced linguistic,
18 mathematical, statistical, and anthropo-
19 logical research and methods.

20 (B) LANGUAGES REQUIRED.—Linguis-
21 tically sensitive algorithms shall be developed
22 and implemented for no fewer than 4 languages
23 designated as high priorities by the Secretary of
24 State, the Attorney General, and the Director
25 of Central Intelligence.

1 (3) ADEQUATE USER SUPPORT.—To satisfy the
2 requirement of paragraph (1)(C), the unified elec-
3 tronic data system shall provide—

4 (A) authoritative, easily accessed informa-
5 tion about the nature, structure, and likely gen-
6 der of names in different languages, including
7 at least those languages specified pursuant to
8 paragraph (2)(B); and

9 (B) a means for communication of ques-
10 tions to experts.

11 (4) INTERIM REPORTS.—Beginning not later
12 than 6 months after the date of enactment of this
13 Act, and every 6 months thereafter, the Secretary of
14 State, the Attorney General, the Secretary of the
15 Treasury, the Commissioner of Immigration and
16 Naturalization, and the Director of Central Intel-
17 ligence shall submit a report to the appropriate com-
18 mittees of Congress on their progress in imple-
19 menting each requirement of this section.

20 (5) REPORTS BY INTELLIGENCE AGENCIES.—

21 (A) CURRENT STANDARDS.—Not later
22 than 60 days after the date of enactment of
23 this Act, the Director of Central Intelligence
24 shall complete the survey and issue the report
25 previously required by section 309(a) of the In-

1 intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year
2 1998 (50 U.S.C. 403–3 note).

3 (B) GUIDELINES.—Not later than 120
4 days after the date of enactment of this Act,
5 the Director of Intelligence shall issue the
6 guidelines and submit the copy of those guide-
7 lines previously required by section 309(b) of
8 the Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal
9 Year 1998 (50 U.S.C. 403–3 note).

10 (6) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—
11 There are authorized to be appropriated such sums
12 as are necessary to carry out the provisions of this
13 subsection.

14 (c) CONSULTATION REQUIREMENT.—In the develop-
15 ment and implementation of the data system under this
16 section, the Secretary of State, the Attorney General, the
17 Secretary of the Treasury, the Commissioner of Immigra-
18 tion and Naturalization, and the Director of Central Intel-
19 ligence shall consult with the Director of the Office of
20 Homeland Security, the Foreign Terrorist Tracking Task
21 Force, United States law enforcement agencies, and the
22 intelligence community.

23 (d) TECHNOLOGY STANDARD.—The data system de-
24 veloped and implemented under this subsection, shall uti-
25 lize the technology standard established pursuant to sec-

1 tion 403(c) of the United and Strengthening America by
2 Providing Appropriate Tools Required to Intercept and
3 Obstruct Terrorism Act of 2001.

4 (e) ACCESS TO INFORMATION IN DATA SYSTEM.—
5 Subject to subsection (f), information in the data system
6 under this section shall be readily and easily accessible as
7 follows:

8 (1) To any Foreign Service officer responsible
9 for the issuance of visas.

10 (2) To any Federal agent responsible for deter-
11 mining the admissibility of an alien to the United
12 States.

13 (f) LIMITATION ON ACCESS.—The Secretary of State,
14 the Attorney General, and the Director of Central Intel-
15 ligence shall establish procedures to restrict access to in-
16 telligence information in the data system under this sec-
17 tion under circumstances in which such information is not
18 to be disclosed directly to Government officials under sub-
19 section (e).

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