

Union Calendar No. 270

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2884

[Report No. 110-429]

To assist members of the Armed Forces in obtaining United States citizenship, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 27, 2007

Mr. CUMMINGS introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

NOVEMBER 6, 2007

Additional sponsors: Mr. JEFFERSON, Mr. RANGEL, Ms. HARMAN, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. HONDA, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. KLINE of Minnesota, Mr. DAVID DAVIS of Tennessee, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, Mr. GONZALEZ, and Mr. KAGEN

NOVEMBER 6, 2007

Reported with an amendment, committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in *italic*]

[For text of introduced bill, see copy of bill as introduced on June 27, 2007]

A BILL

To assist members of the Armed Forces in obtaining United States citizenship, 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 *This Act may be cited as the “Kendell Frederick Citi-*
3 *zenship Assistance Act”.*

4 **SEC. 2. FINGERPRINTS FOR MEMBERS OF ARMED FORCES.**

5 (a) *IN GENERAL.*—*Notwithstanding any other provi-*
6 *sion of law, including section 552a of title 5, United States*
7 *Code (commonly referred to as the “Privacy Act of 1974”),*
8 *the Secretary of Homeland Security shall use the finger-*
9 *prints provided by an individual at the time the individual*
10 *enlisted in the Armed Forces to satisfy any requirement for*
11 *fingerprints that is part of an application for naturaliza-*
12 *tion if—*

13 (1) *the individual may be naturalized pursuant*
14 *to section 328 or 329 of the Immigration and Nation-*
15 *ality Act (8 U.S.C. 1439–1440);*

16 (2) *the individual was fingerprinted in accord-*
17 *ance with the requirements of the Department of De-*
18 *fense at the time the individual enlisted in the Armed*
19 *Forces;*

20 (3) *the individual submits an application for*
21 *naturalization not later than 24 months after the date*
22 *on which the individual enlisted in the Armed Forces;*
23 *and*

24 (4) *the Secretary of Homeland Security deter-*
25 *mines that the fingerprints are sufficient to adju-*
26 *dicare the applicant’s naturalization application.*

1 **(b) MOST TIMELY AND EFFECTIVE ADJUDICATION.**—
2 *Nothing in this section shall preclude an individual de-*
3 *scribed in subsection (a) from submitting new fingerprints*
4 *to the Secretary of Homeland Security. If the Secretary of*
5 *Homeland Security determines that submitting new finger-*
6 *prints would result in more timely and effective adjudica-*
7 *tion of the individual's naturalization application, the Sec-*
8 *retary shall inform the individual that submitting new fin-*
9 *gerprints would result in more timely and effective adju-*
10 *dication of the individual's naturalization application,*
11 *along with a description of how to submit new fingerprints.*

12 **(c) COOPERATION.**—*The Secretary of Homeland Secu-*
13 *rity, in consultation with the Secretary of Defense, shall*
14 *determine the format of fingerprints acceptable for usage*
15 *under subsection (a). The Secretary of Defense, or any other*
16 *official having custody of the fingerprints referred to in sub-*
17 *section (a), shall make such prints available to the Sec-*
18 *retary of Homeland Security for the purpose described in*
19 *subsection (a) without charge and shall otherwise cooperate*
20 *with the Secretary of Homeland Security in fulfilling the*
21 *Secretary's satisfaction of the requirement under subsection*
22 *(a).*

1 **SEC. 3. PROVISION OF INFORMATION ON MILITARY NATU-**
2 **RALIZATION.**

3 (a) *IN GENERAL.*—Not later than 30 days after the
4 effective date of any modification to a regulation related
5 to naturalization under section 328 or 329 of the Immigra-
6 tion and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1439–1440), the Sec-
7 retary of Homeland Security shall update as necessary the
8 appropriate Internet site or sites maintained by the Sec-
9 retary to reflect such modification.

10 (b) *SENSE OF CONGRESS.*—It is the sense of the Con-
11 gress that the Secretary of Homeland Security should up-
12 date as necessary the appropriate application form or forms
13 promulgated by the Secretary not later than 180 days after
14 an effective date described in subsection (a).

15 **SEC. 4. REPORTS.**

16 (a) *ADJUDICATION PROCESS.*—Not later than 120
17 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Comp-
18 troller General of the United States shall submit to the ap-
19 propriate congressional committees a report on the entire
20 process for the adjudication of an application for natu-
21 ralization filed pursuant to section 328 or 329 of the Immi-
22 gration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1439–1440), includ-
23 ing the process that begins at the time the application is
24 mailed to, or received by, the Secretary of Homeland Secu-
25 rity, regardless of whether the Secretary determines that
26 such application is complete, through the final disposition

1 of such application. Such report shall include a description
2 of—

3 (1) the methods of the Secretary of Homeland Se-
4 curity and the Secretary of Defense to prepare, han-
5 dle, and adjudicate such applications;

6 (2) the effectiveness of the chain of authority, su-
7 pervision, and training of employees of the Federal
8 Government or of other entities, including contract
9 employees, who have any role in such process or adju-
10 dication; and

11 (3) the ability of the Secretary of Homeland Se-
12 curity and the Secretary of Defense to use technology
13 to facilitate or accomplish any aspect of such process
14 or adjudication.

15 (b) IMPLEMENTATION.—

16 (1) STUDY.—The Comptroller General of the
17 United States shall conduct a study on the implemen-
18 tation of this Act by the Secretary of Homeland Secu-
19 rity and the Secretary of Defense, including studying
20 any technology that may be used to improve the effi-
21 ciency of the naturalization process for members of
22 the Armed Forces.

23 (2) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the
24 date that the Comptroller General submits the report
25 required by subsection (a), the Comptroller General

1 *shall submit to the appropriate congressional commit-*
2 *tees a report on the study required by paragraph (1).*
3 *The report shall include any recommendations of the*
4 *Comptroller General for improving the implementa-*
5 *tion of this Act by the Secretary of Homeland Secu-*
6 *rity or the Secretary of Defense.*

7 *(c) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES DE-*
8 *FINED.—In this section, the term “appropriate congres-*
9 *sional committees” means—*

10 *(1) the Committee on Armed Services and the*
11 *Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate; and*

12 *(2) the Committee on Armed Services and the*
13 *Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Rep-*
14 *resentatives.*

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