

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 5071

To provide access to Federal public benefits for aliens, without regard to the immigration status of that alien, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 13, 2019

Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ (for herself, Ms. MENG, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Ms. TLAIB, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, and Ms. LEE of California) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Oversight and Reform

A BILL

To provide access to Federal public benefits for aliens, without regard to the immigration status of that alien, 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 “A Just Society: The
5 Embrace Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FEDERAL PUBLIC BENEFIT ACCESSIBILITY FOR**
7 **ALIENS.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provi-
9 sion of law (including title IV of the Personal Responsi-

1 bility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996
2 (8 U.S.C. 1601 et seq.)), an individual who is an alien
3 (without regard to the immigration status of that alien)
4 may not be denied any Federal public benefit solely on
5 the basis of the individual’s immigration status.

6 (b) DEFINITION.—For purposes of this section, the
7 term “Federal public benefit” means—

8 (1) any grant, contract, loan, professional li-
9 cense, or commercial license provided by an agency
10 of the United States or by appropriated funds of the
11 United States; and

12 (2) any retirement, welfare, health, disability,
13 public or assisted housing, postsecondary education,
14 food assistance, unemployment benefit, or any other
15 similar benefit for which payments or assistance are
16 provided to an individual, household, or family eligi-
17 bility unit by an agency of the United States or by
18 appropriated funds of the United States.

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