

116TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 8793

To designate Nicaragua, Honduras, and Guatemala under section 244 of the Immigration and Nationality Act, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 19, 2020

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ (for herself, Mr. SIRES, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. MENG, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Ms. ESCOBAR, Ms. NORTON, Mr. HASTINGS, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Ms. TITUS, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Mrs. TORRES of California, Mr. WELCH, Mrs. DEMINGS, Mr. TAKANO, and Mr. PALLONE) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To designate Nicaragua, Honduras, and Guatemala under section 244 of the Immigration and Nationality Act, 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 “Hurricane Eta Relief
5 Act of 2020”.

6 **SEC. 2. DESIGNATION FOR PURPOSES OF GRANTING TEM-**
7 **PORARY PROTECTED STATUS.**

8 (a) DESIGNATION.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of section 244
2 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C.
3 1254a), the countries described in paragraph (2)
4 shall be treated as if each had been designated
5 under subsection (b)(1)(B) of that section, subject to
6 the provisions of this section.

7 (2) COUNTRIES.—The countries described in
8 this paragraph are the following:

9 (A) Nicaragua.

10 (B) Honduras.

11 (C) Guatemala.

12 (3) PERIOD OF DESIGNATION.—The initial pe-
13 riod of the designation referred to in paragraph (1)
14 shall be for the 18-month period beginning on the
15 date of the enactment of this Act.

16 (b) ALIENS ELIGIBLE.—As a result of the designa-
17 tion made under subsection (a), an alien who is a national
18 of any country described in paragraph (2) is deemed to
19 satisfy the requirements under paragraph (1) of section
20 244(c) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C.
21 1254a(c)), subject to paragraph (3) of such section, if the
22 alien—

23 (1) has been continuously physically present in
24 the United States since the date of the enactment of
25 this Act;

1 (2) is admissible as an immigrant, except as
2 otherwise provided in paragraph (2)(A) of such sec-
3 tion, and is not ineligible for temporary protected
4 status under paragraph (2)(B) of such section; and

5 (3) registers for temporary protected status in
6 a manner established by the Secretary of Homeland
7 Security.

8 (c) CONSENT TO TRAVEL ABROAD.—

9 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Homeland
10 Security shall give prior consent to travel abroad, in
11 accordance with section 244(f)(3) of the Immigra-
12 tion and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1254a(f)(3)), to
13 an alien who is granted temporary protected status
14 pursuant to the designation made under subsection
15 (a) if the alien establishes to the satisfaction of the
16 Secretary of Homeland Security that emergency and
17 extenuating circumstances beyond the control of the
18 alien require the alien to depart for a brief, tem-
19 porary trip abroad.

20 (2) TREATMENT UPON RETURN.—An alien re-
21 turning to the United States in accordance with an
22 authorization described in paragraph (1) shall be
23 treated as any other returning alien provided tem-

1 porary protected status under section 244 of the Im-
2 migration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1254a).

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