

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 225

To amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to reform temporary protected status, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 23, 2025

Mr. BANKS (for himself, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, and Mr. LEE) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to reform temporary protected status, 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 “End Unaccountable
5 Amnesty Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. TEMPORARY PROTECTED STATUS.**

7 (a) POWER TO DESIGNATE A FOREIGN STATE.—Sec-
8 tion 244(b) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8
9 U.S.C. 1254a(b)) is amended—

1 (1) by striking paragraphs (1), (2), and (3) and
2 inserting the following:

3 “(1) INITIAL DESIGNATION.—For purposes of
4 this section, a foreign state may be designated upon
5 the enactment of an Act that satisfies the following
6 requirements:

7 “(A) The Act shall contain a finding
8 that—

9 “(i) there is an ongoing armed conflict
10 within the state and, due to such conflict,
11 requiring the return of aliens who are na-
12 tionals of that state (or to the part of the
13 state) would pose a serious threat to their
14 personal safety;

15 “(ii)(I) there has been an earthquake,
16 flood, drought, epidemic, or other imme-
17 diately life-threatening environmental dis-
18 aster in the state resulting in a substancial,
19 but temporary, disruption of living
20 conditions in the area affected;

21 “(II) the foreign state is unable, tem-
22 porarily, to handle adequately the return to
23 the state of aliens who are nationals of the
24 state; and

1 “(III) the foreign state officially has
2 requested designation under this subparagraph;
3 or

4 “(iii)(I) there exist extraordinary and
5 temporary conditions in the foreign state
6 that prevent aliens who are nationals of
7 the state from returning to the state in
8 safety; and

9 “(II) permitting the aliens to remain
10 temporarily in the United States is not
11 contrary to the national interest of the
12 United States.

13 “(B) The Act shall include—

14 “(i) an estimate of the number of na-
15 tionals of the foreign state who are (or
16 within the effective period of the designa-
17 tion are likely to become) eligible for tem-
18 porary protected status under this section;

19 “(ii) such nationals’ immigration sta-
20 tus in the United States; and

21 “(iii) a time period for the effective-
22 ness of the designation that is not greater
23 than 12 months.

24 “(2) TERMINATION.—

1 “(A) TIMELY TERMINATION.—If an initial
2 designation of a foreign state is not extended
3 under paragraph (3), the initial designation
4 shall terminate at the end of the time period
5 described in paragraph (1)(B)(iii).

6 “(B) EARLY TERMINATION.—For purposes
7 of this section, the designation of a foreign
8 state shall be terminated upon the enactment of
9 an Act that contains a finding that the foreign
10 state (or part of such foreign state) no longer
11 meets the conditions for designation under
12 paragraph (1)(A).

13 “(3) EXTENSION.—For purposes of this sec-
14 tion, the time period for the effectiveness of the des-
15 ignation of a foreign state may be extended upon the
16 enactment of an Act that includes—

17 “(A) a finding that the conditions for des-
18 ignation under paragraph (1)(A) continue to be
19 met; and

20 “(B) a time period for the effectiveness of
21 the extension that is not greater than 12
22 months.”; and

23 (2) in paragraph (5)(A), by striking “of the At-
24 torney General” and inserting “made in any Act”.

1 (b) ALIENS LACKING LAWFUL IMMIGRATION STA-
2 TUS.—Section 244(c)(2)(B) of the Immigration and Na-
3 tionality Act (8 U.S.C. 1254a(c)(2)(B)) is amended—

4 (1) in clause (i), by striking “, or” at the end
5 and inserting a semicolon;

6 (2) in clause (ii), by striking the period at the
7 end and inserting “; or”; and

8 (3) by adding at the end the following:

9 “(iii) the alien lacks a lawful immigra-
10 tion status.”.

11 (c) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Section 244 of the
12 Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1254a) is
13 amended—

14 (1) in subsection (d)(3), by striking “If the At-
15 torney General terminates the designation of a for-
16 eign state (or part of such foreign state) under sub-
17 section (b)(3)(B)” and inserting “If the designation
18 of a foreign state (or part of such foreign state) is
19 terminated under subsection (b)(2)”; and

20 (2) in subsection (i)(1)—

21 (A) in subparagraph (A), by striking the
22 comma at the end and inserting “; and”;

23 (B) in subparagraph (B), by striking “,
24 and” and inserting a period; and

25 (C) by striking subparagraph (C).

1 (d) TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS.—Section 244 of the
2 Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1254a), as
3 amended by subsections (a) and (b) of this section, is fur-
4 ther amended—

5 (1) by striking “Attorney General” each place
6 it appears and inserting “Secretary of Homeland Se-
7 curity”; and

8 (2) in subsection (d)(3), by striking “Attorney
9 General’s” and inserting “Secretary of Homeland
10 Security’s”.

11 **SEC. 3. UNACCOMPANIED ALIEN CHILDREN.**

12 (a) REPATRIATION OF UNACCOMPANIED ALIEN
13 CHILDREN.—

14 (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 235 of the William
15 Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reau-
16 thorization Act of 2008 (8 U.S.C. 1232) is amend-
17 ed—

18 (A) in subsection (a)—

19 (i) in paragraph (2)—

20 (I) by amending the heading to
21 read as follows: “RULES FOR UNAC-
22 COMPANIED ALIEN CHILDREN.—”;

23 (II) in subparagraph (A)—

24 (aa) in the matter preceding
25 clause (i), by striking “who is a

1 national or habitual resident of a
2 country that is contiguous with
3 the United States”;

4 (bb) in clause (i), by inserting
5 “and” at the end;

6 (cc) in clause (ii), by strik-
7 ing “; and” and inserting a pe-
8 riod; and

9 (dd) by striking clause (iii);

10 and

11 (III) in subparagraph (B)—

12 (aa) in the matter preceding
13 clause (i), by striking “(8 U.S.C.
14 1101 et seq.) may—” and insert-
15 ing “(8 U.S.C. 1101 et seq.)—”;

16 (bb) in clause (i), by insert-
17 ing “may” before “permit such
18 child to withdraw”; and

19 (cc) in clause (ii), by insert-
20 ing “shall” before “return such
21 child”; and

22 (ii) in paragraph (5)(D)—

23 (I) in the matter preceding clause
24 (i), by striking “, except for an unac-
25 companied alien child from a contig-

1 uous country subject to exceptions
2 under subsection (a)(2)," and inserting
3 "who does not meet the criteria
4 listed in paragraph (2)(A)"; and

5 (II) in clause (i), by inserting " ,
6 which shall include a hearing before
7 an immigration judge not later than
8 14 days after being screened under
9 paragraph (4)" before the semicolon
10 at the end;

11 (B) in subsection (b)—

12 (i) in paragraph (2)—

13 (I) in subparagraph (A), by in-
14 serting "believed not to meet the cri-
15 teria listed in subsection (a)(2)(A)"
16 after "child"; and

17 (II) in subparagraph (B), by in-
18 serting "and does not meet the cri-
19 teria listed in subsection (a)(2)(A)"
20 after "age"; and

21 (ii) in paragraph (3), by striking "an
22 unaccompanied alien child in custody
23 shall" and all that follows through
24 "child.", and inserting the following: "an
25 unaccompanied alien child in custody—

1 “(A) in the case of a child who does not
2 meet the criteria listed in subsection (a)(2)(A),
3 shall transfer the custody of such child to the
4 Secretary of Health and Human Services not
5 later than 30 days after determining that such
6 child is an unaccompanied alien child who does
7 not meet such criteria; or

8 “(B) in the case of a child who meets the
9 criteria listed in subsection (a)(2)(A), may
10 transfer the custody of such child to the Sec-
11 retary of Health and Human Services after de-
12 termining that such child is an unaccompanied
13 alien child who meets such criteria.”; and

14 (C) in subsection (c)—

15 (i) in paragraph (3), by inserting at
16 the end the following:

17 “(D) INFORMATION ABOUT INDIVIDUALS
18 WITH WHOM CHILDREN ARE PLACED.—

19 “(i) INFORMATION TO BE PROVIDED
20 TO HOMELAND SECURITY.—Before placing
21 a child with an individual, the Secretary of
22 Health and Human Services shall provide
23 to the Secretary of Homeland Security, re-
24 garding the individual with whom the child
25 will be placed, information on—

1 “(I) the name of the individual;
2 “(II) the social security number
3 of the individual;
4 “(III) the date of birth of the in-
5 dividual;
6 “(IV) the location of the individ-
7 ual’s residence where the child will be
8 placed;
9 “(V) the immigration status of
10 the individual, if known; and
11 “(VI) contact information for the
12 individual.

13 “(ii) ACTIVITIES OF THE SECRETARY
14 OF HOMELAND SECURITY.—Not later than
15 30 days after receiving the information
16 listed in clause (i), the Secretary of Home-
17 land Security, upon determining that an
18 individual with whom a child is placed is
19 unlawfully present in the United States
20 and not in removal proceedings pursuant
21 to chapter 4 of title II of the Immigration
22 and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1221 et
23 seq.), shall initiate such removal pro-
24 ceedings.”; and

(II) by striking “have counsel to represent them” and inserting “have access to counsel to represent them”.

15 (b) SPECIAL IMMIGRANT JUVENILE STATUS FOR IM-
16 MIGRANTS UNABLE TO REUNITE WITH EITHER PAR-
17 ENT.—Section 101(a)(27)(J) of the Immigration and Na-
18 tionality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(27)(J)) is amended—

23 (2) in clause (iii)—

24 (A) in subclause (I), by striking “and” at
25 the end;

1 (B) in subclause (II), by inserting “and”
2 after the semicolon; and

3 (C) by adding at the end the following:

4 “(III) an alien may not be grant-
5 ed special immigrant status under this
6 subparagraph if the alien’s reunifica-
7 tion with any one parent or legal
8 guardian is not precluded by abuse,
9 neglect, abandonment, or any similar
10 cause under State law;”.

11 (c) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this sec-
12 tion shall be construed to limit the following procedures
13 or practices relating to an unaccompanied alien child (as
14 defined in section 462(g)(2) of the Homeland Security Act
15 of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 279(g)(2))):

16 (1) Screening of such a child for a credible fear
17 of return to his or her country of origin.

18 (2) Screening of such a child to determine
19 whether he or she was a victim of trafficking.

20 (3) Department of Health and Human Services
21 policy in effect on the date of the enactment of this
22 Act requiring a home study for such a child if he or
23 she is under 12 years of age.

1 SEC. 4. REPEAL OF CANCELLATION OF REMOVAL; ADJUST-

2 MENT OF STATUS.

3 (a) REPEAL.—Section 240A of the Immigration and
4 Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1229b) is repealed.

5 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—The Immigration
6 and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101 et seq.) is amended—

7 (1) in section 101(a)—

8 (A) in paragraph (13)(C)(v), by striking
9 “or 240A(a)”;

10 (B) in paragraph (50), by striking “,
11 204(a)(1)(B)(ii)(II)(aa)(BB), or
12 240A(b)(2)(A)(i)(III)” and inserting “or
13 204(a)(1)(B)(ii)(II)(aa)(BB)”;

14 (2) by striking section 201(b)(1)(D);

15 (3) in section 240—

16 (A) in subsection (b)(7), by striking
17 “240A,”;

18 (B) in subsection (c)(7)(C)(iv)(I), by strik-
19 ing “clause (ii) or (iii) of section 204(a)(1)(B),
20 or 240A(b)(2)” and inserting “or clause (ii) or
21 (iii) of section 204(a)(1)(B)”;

22 (C) in subsection (e), by striking “and sec-
23 tion 240A”;

24 (4) in section 240B(d)—

25 (A) in paragraph (1)(B), by striking
26 “240A,”;

- 1 (B) in paragraph (2)—
2 (i) by striking “240A or”; and
3 (ii) by striking “under section
4 240A(b)(2), or”;
5 (5) in section 242(a)(2)(B)(i), by striking
6 “240A,”;
7 (6) by striking section 244(e);
8 (7) in section 245(l)(7), by striking
9 “240A(b)(2),” and
10 (8) by striking section 504(k)(3).

11 **SEC. 5. PROHIBITED IDENTIFICATION DOCUMENTS FOR**
12 **AIR TRAVEL.**

13 (a) PROHIBITED IDENTIFICATION DOCUMENTS AT
14 AIRPORT SECURITY CHECKPOINTS.—The Administrator
15 of the Transportation Security Administration may not
16 accept, as valid proof of identification, a prohibited identi-
17 fication document at an airport security checkpoint.

18 (b) PROHIBITION ON OPERATIONS FOR CERTAIN AIR
19 CARRIERS.—

20 (1) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 401 of title 49,
21 United States Code, is amended by adding at the
22 end the following:

1 **“§ 40133. Prohibition on operations of air carriers al-**
2 **lowing use of prohibited identification**
3 **documents”**

4 “An air carrier or foreign air carrier may not operate
5 an aircraft in foreign air transportation or land such air-
6 craft at any airport in the United States if the air carrier
7 or foreign air carrier allows the use of a prohibited identi-
8 fication document (as defined in section 5(c) of the End
9 Unaccountable Amnesty Act) as identification to board
10 such aircraft.”.

11 (2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for
12 chapter 401 of title 49, United States Code, is
13 amended by inserting after the item relating to sec-
14 tion 40132 the following:

“40133. Prohibition on operations of air carriers allowing use of prohibited iden-
tification documents.”.

15 (c) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term “prohib-
16 ited identification document” means any of the following:

17 (1) The CBP One Mobile Application.
18 (2) A notice to appear issued by the Depart-
19 ment of Homeland Security pursuant to section
20 239(a) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8
21 U.S.C. 1229(a)).

22 (3) Department of Homeland Security Form I–
23 385 (commonly known as a “Notice to Report”).

1 SEC. 6. IMMIGRATION PAROLE REFORM.

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 212(d)(5) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1182(d)(5)) is
3 amended to read as follows:

5 “(5)(A) Except as provided in subparagraphs
6 (B) and (C) and section 214(f), the Secretary of
7 Homeland Security, in the discretion of the Secretary,
8 may temporarily parole into the United States any alien applying for admission to the
9 United States who is not present in the United States, under such conditions as the Secretary may
10 prescribe, on a case-by-case basis, and not according
11 to eligibility criteria describing an entire class of potential parole recipients, for urgent humanitarian
12 reasons or significant public benefit. Parole granted
13 under this subparagraph may not be regarded as an
14 admission of the alien. When the purposes of such
15 parole have been served in the opinion of the Secretary,
16 the alien shall immediately return or be returned to the custody from which the alien was paroled.
17 After such return, the case of the alien shall
18 be dealt with in the same manner as the case of any
19 other applicant for admission to the United States.

24 “(B) The Secretary of Homeland Security may
25 grant parole to any alien who—

1 “(i) is present in the United States without
2 lawful immigration status;

3 “(ii) is the beneficiary of an approved peti-
4 tion under section 203(a);

5 “(iii) is not otherwise inadmissible or re-
6 movable; and

7 “(iv) is the spouse or child of a member of
8 the Armed Forces serving on active duty.

9 “(C) The Secretary of Homeland Security may
10 grant parole to any alien—

11 “(i) who is a national of the Republic of
12 Cuba and is living in the Republic of Cuba;

13 “(ii) who is the beneficiary of an approved
14 petition under section 203(a);

15 “(iii) for whom an immigrant visa is not
16 immediately available;

17 “(iv) who meets all eligibility requirements
18 for an immigrant visa;

19 “(v) who is not otherwise inadmissible; and

20 “(vi) who is receiving a grant of parole in
21 furtherance of the commitment of the United
22 States to the minimum level of annual legal mi-
23 gration of Cuban nationals to the United States
24 specified in the U.S.-Cuba Joint Communiqué
25 on Migration, done at New York September 9,

1 1994, and reaffirmed in the Cuba-United
2 States: Joint Statement on Normalization of
3 Migration, Building on the Agreement of Sep-
4 tember 9, 1994, done at New York May 2,
5 1995.

6 “(D) The Secretary of Homeland Security may
7 grant parole to an alien who is returned to a contig-
8 uous country under section 235(b)(2)(C) to allow
9 the alien to attend the alien’s immigration hearing.
10 The grant of parole shall not exceed the time re-
11 quired for the alien to be escorted to, and attend,
12 the alien’s immigration hearing scheduled on the
13 same calendar day as the grant, and to immediately
14 thereafter be escorted back to the contiguous coun-
15 try. A grant of parole under this subparagraph shall
16 not be considered for purposes of determining
17 whether the alien is inadmissible under this Act.

18 “(E) For purposes of determining an alien’s eli-
19 gibility for parole under subparagraph (A), an ur-
20 gent humanitarian reason shall be limited to cir-
21 cumstances in which the alien establishes that—

22 “(i)(I) the alien has a medical emergency;
23 and

1 “(II)(aa) the alien cannot obtain necessary
2 treatment in the foreign state in which the alien
3 is residing; or

4 “(bb) the medical emergency is life-threat-
5 ening and there is insufficient time for the alien
6 to be admitted through the normal visa process;

7 “(ii) the alien is the parent or legal guard-
8 ian of an alien described in clause (i) and the
9 alien described in clause (i) is a minor;

10 “(iii) the alien is needed in the United
11 States in order to donate an organ or other tis-
12 sue for transplant and there is insufficient time
13 for the alien to be admitted through the normal
14 visa process;

15 “(iv) the alien has a close family member
16 in the United States whose death is imminent
17 and the alien could not arrive in the United
18 States in time to see such family member alive
19 if the alien were to be admitted through the
20 normal visa process;

21 “(v) the alien is seeking to attend the fu-
22 neral of a close family member and the alien
23 could not arrive in the United States in time to
24 attend such funeral if the alien were to be ad-
25 mitted through the normal visa process;

1 “(vi) the alien is an adopted child with an
2 urgent medical condition who is in the legal
3 custody of the petitioner for a final adoption-re-
4 lated visa and whose medical treatment is re-
5 quired before the expected award of a final
6 adoption-related visa; or

7 “(vii) the alien is a lawful applicant for ad-
8 justment of status under section 245 and is re-
9 turning to the United States after temporary
10 travel abroad.

11 “(F) For purposes of determining an alien's eli-
12 gibility for parole under subparagraph (A), a signifi-
13 cant public benefit may be determined to result from
14 the parole of an alien only if—

15 “(i) the alien has assisted (or will assist,
16 whether knowingly or not) the United States
17 Government in a law enforcement matter;

18 “(ii) the alien's presence is required by the
19 Government in furtherance of such law enforce-
20 ment matter; and

21 “(iii) the alien is inadmissible, does not
22 satisfy the eligibility requirements for admission
23 as a nonimmigrant, or there is insufficient time
24 for the alien to be admitted through the normal
25 visa process.

1 “(G) For purposes of determining an alien’s eli-
2 gibility for parole under subparagraph (A), the term
3 ‘case-by-case basis’ means that the facts in each in-
4 dividual case are considered and parole is not grant-
5 ed based on membership in a defined class of aliens
6 to be granted parole. The fact that aliens are consid-
7 ered for or granted parole one-by-one and not as a
8 group is not sufficient to establish that the parole
9 decision is made on a ‘case-by-case basis’.

10 “(H) The Secretary of Homeland Security may
11 not use the parole authority under this paragraph to
12 parole an alien into the United States for any reason
13 or purpose other than those described in subpara-
14 graphs (B), (C), (D), (E), and (F).

15 “(I) An alien granted parole may not accept
16 employment, except that an alien granted parole
17 pursuant to subparagraph (B) or (C) is authorized
18 to accept employment for the duration of the parole,
19 as evidenced by an employment authorization docu-
20 ment issued by the Secretary of Homeland Security.

21 “(J) Parole granted after a departure from the
22 United States shall not be regarded as an admission
23 of the alien. An alien granted parole, whether as an
24 initial grant of parole or parole upon reentry into
25 the United States, is not eligible to adjust status to

1 lawful permanent residence or for any other immi-
2 gration benefit if the immigration status the alien
3 had at the time of departure did not authorize the
4 alien to adjust status or to be eligible for such ben-
5 efit.

6 “(K)(i) Except as provided in clauses (ii) and
7 (iii), parole shall be granted to an alien under this
8 paragraph for the shorter of—

9 “(I) a period of sufficient length to accom-
10 plish the activity described in subparagraph
11 (D), (E), or (F) for which the alien was grant-
12 ed parole; or

13 “(II) 1 year.

14 “(ii) Grants of parole pursuant to subparagraph
15 (A) may be extended once, in the discretion of the
16 Secretary, for an additional period that is the short-
17 er of—

18 “(I) the period that is necessary to accom-
19 plish the activity described in subparagraph (E)
20 or (F) for which the alien was granted parole;
21 or

22 “(II) 1 year.

23 “(iii) Aliens who have a pending application to
24 adjust status to permanent residence under section
25 245 may request extensions of parole under this

1 paragraph, in 1-year increments, until the applica-
2 tion for adjustment has been adjudicated. Such pa-
3 role shall terminate immediately upon the denial of
4 such adjustment application.

5 “(L) The total number of aliens granted parole
6 under this paragraph during any fiscal year may not
7 exceed 1,000.

8 “(M) Not later than 90 days after the last day
9 of each fiscal year, the Secretary of Homeland Secu-
10 rity shall submit to the Committee on the Judiciary
11 of the Senate and the Committee on the Judiciary
12 of the House of Representatives and make available
13 to the public, a report—

14 “(i) identifying the total number of aliens
15 paroled into the United States under this para-
16 graph during the previous fiscal year; and

17 “(ii) containing information and data re-
18 garding all aliens paroled during such fiscal
19 year, including—

20 “(I) the duration of parole;

21 “(II) the type of parole; and

22 “(III) the current status of the aliens
23 so paroled.”.

24 (b) IMPLEMENTATION.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in para-
2 graph (2), this section and the amendments made by
3 this section shall take effect on the date that is 30
4 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.

5 (2) EXCEPTIONS.—Notwithstanding paragraph
6 (1), each of the following exceptions apply:

7 (A) Any application for parole or advance
8 parole filed by an alien before the date of the
9 enactment of this Act shall be adjudicated
10 under the law that was in effect on the date on
11 which the application was properly filed and
12 any approved advance parole shall remain valid
13 under the law that was in effect on the date on
14 which the advance parole was approved.

15 (B) Section 212(d)(5)(J) of the Immigra-
16 tion and Nationality Act, as added by sub-
17 section (a), shall take effect on the date of the
18 enactment of this Act.

19 (C) Aliens who were paroled into the
20 United States pursuant to section 212(d)(5)(A)
21 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8
22 U.S.C. 1182(d)(5)(A)) before January 1, 2023,
23 shall continue to be subject to the terms of pa-
24 role that were in effect on the date on which
25 their respective parole was approved.

1 (c) CAUSE OF ACTION.—Any person, State, or local
2 government that experiences financial harm in excess of
3 \$1,000 due to a failure of the Federal Government to law-
4 fully apply the provisions of this section or the amend-
5 ments made by this section shall have standing to bring
6 a civil action against the Federal Government in an appro-
7 priate district court of the United States for appropriate
8 relief.

9 (d) SEVERABILITY.—If any provision of this section
10 or any amendment by this section, or the application of
11 such provision or amendment to any person or cir-
12 cumstance, is held to be unconstitutional, the remainder
13 of this section and the application of such provision or
14 amendment to any other person or circumstance shall not
15 be affected.

