

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 696

To provide temporary Ukrainian guest status for eligible aliens, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 24, 2025

Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Ms. ROSEN, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, and Mr. WELCH) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To provide temporary Ukrainian guest status for eligible aliens, 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 “Protecting Our Guests
5 During Hostilities in Ukraine Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

7 In this Act:

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—Any term used in this Act
2 that is used in the immigration laws shall have the
3 meaning given such term in the immigration laws.

4 (2) ELIGIBLE ALIEN.—The term “eligible
5 alien” means an alien who was paroled under the
6 Uniting for Ukraine parole process announced on
7 April 21, 2022.

8 (3) IMMIGRATION LAWS.—The term “immigra-
9 tion laws” has the meaning given such term in sec-
10 tion 101(a)(17) of the Immigration and Nationality
11 Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(17)).

12 **SEC. 3. TEMPORARY UKRAINIAN GUEST STATUS.**

13 (a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provi-
14 sion of law, an eligible alien shall be considered to be ad-
15 mitted to the United States in Ukrainian guest status as
16 of the date on which the eligible alien was first paroled
17 into the United States.

18 (b) EMPLOYMENT AUTHORIZATION.—An alien in
19 Ukrainian guest status under this section is authorized to
20 be employed in the United States incident to and for the
21 duration of such status.

22 (c) EXPIRATION.—Ukrainian guest status under this
23 section shall expire on the date that is 120 days after the
24 date on which the Secretary of State determines that—

25 (1) hostilities in Ukraine have ceased; and

1 (2) conditions in Ukraine allow for the safe and
2 reasonable return of civilians to Ukraine.

3 (d) REVOCATION.—The Ukrainian guest status of an
4 alien may be revoked if the Secretary of Homeland Secu-
5 rity determines that the alien is described in section
6 241(b)(3)(B) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8
7 U.S.C. 1231(b)(3)(B)).

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