

114TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 5141

To provide for the termination of the Central American Minors Refugee/
Parole Program.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 29, 2016

Mr. GOSAR (for himself, Mr. BABIN, Mr. BARLETTA, Mrs. BLACK, Mr. BRAT, Mr. BROOKS of Alabama, Mr. DESJARLAIS, Mr. DUNCAN of South Carolina, Mr. GOHMERT, Mr. GROTHMAN, Mr. HUELSKAMP, Mr. JONES, Mr. KING of Iowa, Mr. MARCHANT, Mr. MICA, Mr. PALAZZO, Mr. ROGERS of Alabama, Mr. ROHRABACHER, Mr. SALMON, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. WEBER of Texas, and Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To provide for the termination of the Central American
Minors Refugee/Parole Program.

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 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the
5 “Central American Amnesty Termination Act of 2016”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 The Congress finds the following:

1 (1) On December 1, 2014, in the face of serious
2 national security threats, and despite vigorous oppo-
3 sition from the Congress, the Obama Administration
4 began accepting applications for a new program
5 known as the “Central American Minors (CAM)
6 Refugee/Parole Program” (the “CAM program”).

7 (2) Article 1, section 8, of the Constitution
8 gives the Congress clear jurisdiction on immigration
9 matters, and the unilateral creation of the CAM pro-
10 gram by executive action clearly infringes on that
11 authority.

12 (3) Under the CAM program, the Obama Ad-
13 ministration allows illegal aliens from 3 Central
14 American countries to fly to the United States and
15 be admitted into the United States.

16 (4) In a December 17, 2015, letter to multiple
17 Members of the Congress, U.S. Citizenship and Im-
18 migration Services Director Leon Rodriguez ac-
19 knowledged that the agency does not systematically
20 track whether CAM program applicants previously
21 have been removed from the United States or had
22 prior felony convictions.

23 (5) The December 2015 letter also revealed
24 that certain CAM program beneficiaries are imme-

1 diately eligible to work and obtain legal status in the
2 United States.

3 (6) Under the CAM program, certain bene-
4 ficiaries are eligible ultimately to obtain permanent
5 residence and are immediately eligible for certain
6 taxpayer-funded Federal benefits.

7 (7) Under the CAM program, certain bene-
8 ficiaries are able to pursue citizenship in the United
9 States after 5 years of permanent residence.

10 (8) The CAM program provides cash, loans for
11 flights to North America, reimbursements for DNA
12 testing, and medical assistance.

13 (9) The CAM program also waives certain fees
14 for participating beneficiaries, which fees are re-
15 quired to be paid by potential legal immigrants who
16 wish to enter this country in accordance with our
17 laws.

18 (10) The Department of State reported in April
19 2016, that 8,001 aliens from 3 Central American
20 countries have applied to be admitted to the United
21 States under the CAM program, and that 197 par-
22 ents and children already have been admitted under
23 the program.

24 (11) The December 2015 letter also stated that
25 at least 16 parents who completed an Affidavit of

1 Relationship under the CAM program were Deferred
2 Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) recipients,
3 and indicated that the program plans eventually to
4 accept applications from the Deferred Action for
5 Parents of Americans and Lawful Permanent Resi-
6 dents (DAPA) program.

7 (12) DACA and DAPA were both created by
8 the Obama Administration through unconstitutional
9 executive action. An injunction to stop the creation
10 of DAPA and the expansion of DACA was upheld by
11 the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals.

12 (13) The Associated Press recently obtained in-
13 formation through a Freedom of Information Act re-
14 quest that revealed that, of the 71,000 unaccom-
15 panied alien minors placed with sponsors in the
16 United States from February 2014 to September
17 2015, most of whom were from Central America, 80
18 percent were placed with illegal immigrants living in
19 the United States.

20 (14) U.S. Customs and Border Protection re-
21 ports that 141,192 unaccompanied alien minors
22 from Central American countries were apprehended
23 by the United States Border Patrol from October 1,
24 2008, through February 29, 2016.

1 (15) Total U.S. Customs and Border apprehen-
2 sion on the southwest border increased 28 percent in
3 March 2016 compared to the previous year, with
4 33,335 total Border Patrol apprehensions, 4,201 of
5 which were unaccompanied alien minors, and 4,448
6 of which were members of family units traveling to-
7 gether.

8 (16) In an April 2015 hearing, the Sub-
9 committee on Immigration and the National Interest
10 of the Senate Committee on the Judiciary heard im-
11 portant testimony on the CAM program.

12 (17) Testimony from officials within the Obama
13 Administration at the April 2015 hearing purported
14 that the CAM program would assist with reducing
15 the surge of unaccompanied alien minors on our
16 southwest border.

17 (18) Testimony at the April 2015 hearing re-
18 vealed that the CAM program will impose significant
19 costs on taxpayers and State and local governments.

20 (19) Testimony at the April 2015 hearing
21 found that the CAM program is not a true refugee
22 program, but rather is primarily an end-run around
23 the law to create a new admissions program for alien
24 families from 3 Central American countries in order

1 to unite them with other illegal aliens residing in the
2 United States.

3 (20) The April hearing also revealed that the
4 CAM program has contributed to the surge of unac-
5 companied alien minors flooding the United States,
6 as the program provides an incentive for further ille-
7 gal immigration.

8 (21) The CAM program has been a failure and
9 has not helped reduce the surge of unaccompanied
10 alien minors on our southwest border.

11 **SEC. 3. CERTAIN ACTIVITIES PROHIBITED.**

12 Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no funds,
13 resources, or fees made available to the Secretary of
14 Homeland Security, or to any other official of a Federal
15 agency, by any Act for any fiscal year, including any de-
16 posits into the “Immigration Examinations Fee Account”
17 established under section 286(m) of the Immigration and
18 Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1356(m)), may be used to im-
19 plement, administer, or carry out the Central American
20 Minors Refugee/Parole Program, or any successor pro-
21 gram.

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