

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 6455

To establish the Global Climate Change Resilience Strategy, to authorize the admission of climate-displaced persons into the United States, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 17, 2023

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ (for herself, Ms. NORTON, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. ESPAILLAT, and Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To establish the Global Climate Change Resilience Strategy, to authorize the admission of climate-displaced persons into the United States, 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; TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

4 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the
5 “Climate Displaced Persons Act”.

6 (b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for
7 this Act is as follows:

- Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
- Sec. 2. Findings; sense of Congress.
- Sec. 3. Definitions.
- Sec. 4. Required data collection and reporting.
- Sec. 5. Global Climate Change Resilience Strategy.
- Sec. 6. Training in climate change resilience.
- Sec. 7. Guidance on the humanitarian impacts of climate change.
- Sec. 8. Admission of climate-displaced persons.
- Sec. 9. Authorization of appropriations.

1 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS; SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

2 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

3 (1) In the second study of the Sixth Assessment
4 Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate
5 Change (IPCC), issued in February 2022, the IPCC
6 stated, based on scientific evidence, that the Earth’s
7 climate is now changing faster than at any point in
8 human and recent geologic history.

9 (2) The Sixth Assessment Report of the IPCC
10 and the Fourth National Climate Assessment, issued
11 in November 2018, found that a changing climate
12 is—

13 (A) causing sea levels to rise;

14 (B) contributing to an increase in wildfires
15 and temperature extremes in some parts of the
16 world;

17 (C) contributing to an increase in heavy
18 precipitation in certain locations; and

19 (D) intensifying drought in many regions
20 of the world.

1 (3) Forced displacement and forced migration
2 are increasing in the context of environmental
3 changes and climate-induced disruptions, including
4 weather-related disasters, drought, food insecurity,
5 and rising sea levels.

6 (4) In 2022, flooding events caused 6 out of 10
7 disaster displacements within countries, surpassing
8 other types of disaster, according to the Internal
9 Displacement Monitoring Centre. Such events in-
10 clude—

11 (A) the weather phenomena affected by El
12 Niño and La Niña, which have recently led to
13 record levels of flood displacement in many
14 countries, including Brazil, Nigeria, Sudan,
15 South Sudan, and Somalia;

16 (B) high-impact events, such as the Au-
17 gust 2022 floods in Pakistan, which displaced
18 millions of people; and

19 (C) floods impacting the most marginalized
20 communities, such as refugees, internally dis-
21 placed persons, and returnee populations in
22 northern South Sudan.

23 (5) Sea level rise, both locally and globally, im-
24 perils low-lying communities around the world by
25 threatening water supplies, accelerating coastal ero-

1 sion and loss of arable land, and inundating coastal
2 areas. This phenomenon affects—

3 (A) low-lying areas of countries, such as
4 Bangladesh, are threatened with land erosion,
5 land loss, salinization, and other effects of sea
6 level rise and extreme weather events; and

7 (B) small-island-developing states, which
8 are particularly vulnerable to sea level rise,
9 which threatens their entire economies and
10 territoriality.

11 (6) Climate change is intensifying drought
12 events and conditions in both severity and duration,
13 which imperils agriculture and other livelihoods and
14 can force families and communities to relocate tem-
15 porarily or permanently. Failed rainy seasons in the
16 Horn of Africa have led to the worst drought condi-
17 tions on record in Somalia, Ethiopia, and Kenya.

18 (7) A 2022 World Food Program report on the
19 Dry Corridor, a strip of land located in Central
20 America that includes Guatemala, El Salvador, Hon-
21 duras, and Nicaragua, has found that in the re-
22 gion—

23 (A) temperatures have been rising, with
24 climate change projections for the Dry Corridor
25 estimating an increase in temperature of up to

1 5.4 degrees Fahrenheit by 2050 and 10.8 de-
2 grees Fahrenheit by 2100;

3 (B) rainfall has been dwindling and becom-
4 ing violently sporadic, with long-term droughts
5 projected to become more severe by 2100 and
6 intensifying by 27 to 73 percent across all
7 months;

8 (C) crop failure is becoming rampant with
9 the expected intensification of heat waves,
10 which are expected to affect basic grains and
11 coffee production due to forest fires, lags in
12 sowing, and increased pests; and

13 (D) approximately $\frac{2}{3}$ of the rural popu-
14 lation of the Dry Corridor live in poverty and
15 roughly $\frac{3}{4}$ of these people are living in extreme
16 poverty with significant levels of malnutrition,
17 with the average monthly income from farming
18 and other livelihoods estimated at \$177.60 per
19 person, leaving little room to cover eventualities
20 linked to droughts, pests, extreme weather
21 events, or socioeconomic shocks.

22 (8) Tropical storms, including hurricanes, cy-
23 clones, and typhoons, are extreme weather events
24 fueled by climate change that can generate wide-
25 spread destruction and displacement.

1 (9) The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Ad-
2 ministration reported that 30 tropical systems were
3 reported during the 2020 Atlantic hurricane season,
4 making 2020—

5 (A) the highest-ever recorded Atlantic hur-
6 ricane season;

7 (B) the fifth consecutive year with an
8 above-normal Atlantic hurricane season; and

9 (C) 1 of the 18 above-normal seasons dur-
10 ing a 26-year span.

11 (10) The negative effects of hurricanes on com-
12 munities can linger for years, as demonstrated by
13 the lasting impacts on parts of Central America
14 caused by Hurricanes Eta and Iota, which both
15 made landfall in the same area in November 2020.

16 (11) Combinations of extreme heat and humid-
17 ity may create wet-bulb temperatures that may
18 render certain regions of the world uninhabitable in
19 the coming decades.

20 (12) In the second study of the Sixth Assess-
21 ment Report, issued in February 2022, the Intergov-
22 ernmental Panel on Climate Change affirmed with
23 high-confidence that societal adaptations in the near
24 term can help reduce the risks of climate change
25 throughout the 21st century.

1 (13) In the “Synthesis Report: Climate Change
2 2023”, the IPCC concluded—

3 (A) “There is a rapidly closing window of
4 opportunity to secure a livable and sustainable
5 future for all”; and

6 (B) “Deep, rapid and sustained mitigation
7 and accelerated implementation of adaptation
8 actions in this decade would reduce projected
9 losses and damages for humans and eco-
10 systems”.

11 (14) The United States bears a dispropor-
12 tionate responsibility for climate change since an es-
13 timated $\frac{1}{5}$ of all historical worldwide carbon dioxide
14 emissions were released in the United States, which
15 is greater than the amount of such emissions re-
16 leased in any other single country.

17 (15) In the “Synthesis Report: Climate Change
18 2023”, the IPCC concluded, with high confidence,
19 “Vulnerable communities who have historically con-
20 tributed the least to current climate change are dis-
21 proportionately affected.”

22 (16) According to the United Nations Refugee
23 Agency (UNHCR)—

24 (A) 70 percent of refugees originate from
25 countries on the front lines of the climate crisis;

1 (B) climate change affects people inside
2 their own countries; and

3 (C) climate change typically creates inter-
4 nal displacement before it begins displacing
5 people across international borders.

6 (17) The Global Compact on Refugees recog-
7 nizes that “climate, environmental degradation and
8 natural disasters increasingly interact with the driv-
9 ers of refugee movements.”

10 (18) The October 2021 White House Report on
11 the Impact of Climate Change on Migration—

12 (A) recommends that Congress should ex-
13 plore “the need for additional protections for
14 individuals who can establish that they are flee-
15 ing serious, credible threats to their life or
16 physical integrity as a result of climate
17 change;” and

18 (B) states “[t]he United States should
19 identify ways to apply existing protection
20 frameworks in the context of climate change-re-
21 lated displacement and to identify gaps where
22 the United States should forge new legal path-
23 ways to protection.”

24 (19) As noted in a March 2023 report by the
25 U.S. Committee for Refugees and Immigrants’

1 International Refugee Assistance Project and the
2 Human Security Initiative, many asylum seekers
3 have cited the destruction of their homes, agricul-
4 tural lands, and businesses due to climate-related
5 causes as contributing to their decisions to flee, as
6 these climate-related environmental disasters exacer-
7 bated their conditions of marginalization.

8 (20) The United Nations Human Rights Coun-
9 cil has recognized that climate change poses an exis-
10 tential threat that has already negatively affected
11 the fulfillment of human rights, specifically noting
12 that—

13 (A) “all States should, when taking action
14 to address climate change, respect, promote and
15 consider their respective obligations on human
16 rights”; and

17 (B) “the adverse effects of climate change
18 are felt most acutely by those segments of the
19 population that are already in vulnerable situa-
20 tions owing to factors such as geography, pov-
21 erty, gender, age, indigenous or minority status,
22 national or social origin, birth or other status
23 and disability”.

1 (21) The effects of climate change also exacer-
2 bate social, economic, and political tensions within
3 and among nations.

4 (22) The UNHCR Global Trends Report 2020
5 found, “95 percent of all conflict displacements in
6 2020 occurred in countries vulnerable or highly vul-
7 nerable to climate change. Disasters can also strike
8 populations already uprooted by conflict, forcing
9 them to flee multiple times, as was the case with [in-
10 ternally displaced persons] in Yemen, Syria and So-
11 malia and refugees in Bangladesh.”

12 (23) Climate-vulnerable states experiencing pro-
13 tracted conflict, such as Afghanistan or Yemen, can
14 be affected by multiple climate-related threats simul-
15 taneously, such as—

16 (A) drought and flooding events in Afghan-
17 istan; and

18 (B) drought, desertification, and cyclones
19 affecting Yemen.

20 (24) In their 2022 report “Migration as a Cli-
21 mate Adaptation Strategy” USAID found—

22 (A) “Migration has the potential to serve
23 as an important adaptation and risk manage-
24 ment strategy for climate-impacted popu-
25 lations”;

1 (B) “Migration is not an adaptation strat-
2 egy available to everyone due to pre-existing
3 vulnerabilities, a lack of resources, or systemic
4 inequalities;” and

5 (C) “Voluntary and proactive migration
6 can benefit migrants, their households, sending
7 communities, and receiving communities. Bene-
8 fits include livelihood diversification, increased
9 income and remittances, and knowledge and
10 skills transfer. Receiving communities can ben-
11 efit from an increased labor pool and an influx
12 of migrant spending and support services.”

13 (25) The Office of the United Nations High
14 Commissioner for Human Rights has suggested that
15 a person displaced across borders due to climate re-
16 lated events—

17 (A) has the right to not be returned to a
18 country where such person would have irrep-
19 arable harm to their right to life;

20 (B) should be considered a victim of forced
21 displacement; and

22 (C) should be granted at least a temporary
23 stay in the country where they have found ref-
24 uge.

1 (26) Displaced individuals, including individuals
2 affected by climate change, can seek protective stay
3 in third countries through humanitarian pathways,
4 family reunification processes, labor-based visas, and
5 other complementary pathways with a humanitarian
6 focus.

7 (27) Recognizing the human rights implications
8 of climate change, countries have begun to explore
9 humanitarian pathways for those displaced by cli-
10 mate-related environmental disasters, such as the
11 Kampala Ministerial Declaration on Migration, En-
12 vironment and Climate Change and Argentina’s re-
13 cently announced humanitarian visa program.

14 (28) A CARE International report, “Evicted by
15 Climate Change: Confronting the Gendered Impacts
16 of Climate-Induced Displacement”, which was pub-
17 lished in July 2020, notes that—

18 (A) “the climate crisis exacerbates gender
19 inequality and makes it harder to achieve gen-
20 der justice”;

21 (B) “in 2018, more than half of the 41
22 million people internally displaced were
23 women”;

24 (C) “[p]oor women and children are up to
25 14 times more likely to be killed than men by

1 a climate-fueled disaster, such as a hurricane,
2 typhoon, cyclone, or flood”; and

3 (D) “[w]omen who are displaced by cli-
4 mate change related impacts often have less ac-
5 cess to relief resources”.

6 (29) Members of LGBTQ+ communities are
7 disproportionately affected by institutional discrimi-
8 nation in the housing, employment, and health sec-
9 tors, which reduces their capacity to cope with the
10 impacts of climate change.

11 (30) Black immigrants and other immigrants of
12 color face higher rates of displacement due to cli-
13 mate change, but are also more often discriminated
14 against in immigration policies and systems.

15 (31) A December 2019 Oxfam International re-
16 port found that climate-related events forced an esti-
17 mated 20,000,000 people from their homes every
18 year during the previous decade.

19 (32) A 2021 national intelligence estimate from
20 the National Intelligence Council, entitled “Climate
21 Change and International Responses Increasing
22 Challenges to U.S. National Security Through
23 2040”, predicted “cross-border migration probably
24 will increase as climate effects put added stress on
25 internally displaced populations”.

1 (33) A 2022 study by the Loss and Damage
2 Collaboration found that an estimated 189,000,000
3 people in low income countries are impacted by ex-
4 treme weather events exacerbated by climate change
5 every year.

6 (34) An October 2023 United Nations Inter-
7 national Children’s Emergency Fund study found
8 that 43,100,000 children in 44 countries were dis-
9 placed from 2016 to 2021 due to floods, storms,
10 droughts, and wildfires.

11 (35) Ecological Threat Register 2020, which
12 was published by the Institute for Economics &
13 Peace—

14 (A) projects that climate-related threats
15 will continue to cause significant displacement
16 worldwide during the coming decades; and

17 (B) stated that 19 countries, with a com-
18 bined population of 2,100,000,000 people, are
19 most at risk for displacement given population
20 growth, water stress, food insecurity, droughts,
21 floods, cyclones, and rising temperature and sea
22 levels.

23 (b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-
24 gress that the United States should—

1 (1) reduce its domestic greenhouse gas emis-
2 sions on a scale and rate proportionate to its histor-
3 ical responsibility and in recognition of the urgency
4 of the threat of climate change;

5 (2) welcome the shared responsibility of climate
6 change adaptation, global disaster risk reduction, re-
7 siliency building, and disaster response and recovery;

8 (3) assist in providing durable solutions for cli-
9 mate-displaced persons;

10 (4) aid other countries in their climate change
11 mitigation efforts; and

12 (5) work with the international community—

13 (A) to establish a framework to share the
14 responsibilities described in paragraphs (2)
15 through (4); and

16 (B) to ensure that the human rights of cli-
17 mate-displaced persons are acknowledged, re-
18 spected, protected, and fulfilled.

19 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS IN THE IMMIGRATION AND NATION-**
20 **ALITY ACT.**

21 Section 101(a) of the Immigration and Nationality
22 Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)) is amended—

23 (1) by striking paragraph (8) and inserting the
24 following:

1 “(8) The term ‘climate-displaced person’ means any
2 person who—

3 “(A) is compelled to leave his or her habitual
4 home, either within his or her country of nationality
5 or in another country, due to—

6 “(i) a climate-related environmental dis-
7 aster; or

8 “(ii) the interaction of a climate-related
9 environmental disaster with other factors, in-
10 cluding resource constraints, food insecurity,
11 discrimination, persecution, or human rights
12 abuses; and

13 “(B) is unable to otherwise access a durable so-
14 lution, such as local integration or safe and vol-
15 untary returns to his or her habitual place of resi-
16 dence due to a climate-related environmental dis-
17 aster that—

18 “(i) has rendered his or her habitual place
19 of residence uninhabitable; or

20 “(ii) has prevented safe integration or vol-
21 untary returns, including through targeted vio-
22 lence, discrimination, human rights abuses, food
23 insecurity, and other forms of harm.

24 “(9) The term ‘climate-related environmental dis-
25 aster’—

1 “(A) means a hydro-meteorological or other cli-
2 matic event related to the Earth’s climate that ad-
3 versely affects persons’ lives, livelihoods, or living
4 conditions; and

5 “(B) includes—

6 “(i) sudden-onset hydro-meteorological
7 events, including—

8 “(I) flooding;

9 “(II) windstorms;

10 “(III) heatwaves;

11 “(IV) extreme wet-bulb temperatures;

12 “(V) violent storms, such as blizzards;

13 and

14 “(VI) hurricanes, typhoons, or cy-
15 clones;

16 “(ii) sudden-onset events that are exacer-
17 bated by conditions related to climate change,
18 including wildfires, mudslides, and avalanches;

19 “(iii) slow-onset events, including—

20 “(I) sea level rise or coastal inunda-
21 tion;

22 “(II) drought;

23 “(III) desertification;

24 “(IV) salinization;

25 “(V) ocean acidification;

1 “(VI) erosion; and

2 “(VII) permafrost thaw; and

3 “(iv) slow- and sudden-onset events with a
4 relationship to climate change that is subse-
5 quently attributed by further scientific re-
6 search.”; and

7 (2) by amending paragraph (34) to read as fol-
8 lows:

9 “(34) The term ‘designated application center’ means
10 any United States embassy or consulate or other facility
11 delegated by the Secretary of State to accept applications
12 for climate-displaced person status under section 244A.”.

13 **SEC. 4. REQUIRED DATA COLLECTION AND REPORTING.**

14 (a) DATA COLLECTION.—

15 (1) IN GENERAL.—The President shall ensure
16 that the Department of Commerce, the Environ-
17 mental Protection Agency, the Department of State,
18 the United States Agency for International Develop-
19 ment, the Office of the Director of National Intel-
20 ligence, the Department of Defense, the Department
21 of Homeland Security, and other relevant Federal
22 agencies collect, maintain, and publish data on dis-
23 placement caused by climate change.

24 (2) SOURCES.—Sources of the data described in
25 paragraph (1) shall include information from—

1 (A) the International Organization for Mi-
2 gration;

3 (B) the United Nations Refugee Agency
4 (UNHCR);

5 (C) the United Nations Children’s Fund;
6 and

7 (D) other international organizations that
8 are collecting such data.

9 (3) DISAGGREGATION.—Data shall be collected,
10 maintained, and published pursuant to paragraph
11 (1) at sufficient levels of disaggregation to assess
12 the disparities of the impacts of climate change on
13 a variety of groups and populations, including
14 disaggregation by race, ethnicity, pregnancy status,
15 parental status, socioeconomic status, country of res-
16 idence, and other relevant demographics to assess
17 and ensure the equitable application of this Act and
18 the amendments made by this Act.

19 (4) MITIGATION.—The data described in this
20 subsection shall be used to mitigate externally influ-
21 enced disparities in other countries to the extent fea-
22 sible.

23 (b) ANNUAL REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after
24 the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually there-
25 after, the President shall submit a report, in unclassified

1 form, to the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Sen-
2 ate and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House
3 of Representatives that—

4 (1) details the collection and analysis of the
5 data described in subsection (a); and

6 (2) may include a classified annex.

7 (c) LIST OF CLIMATE-VULNERABLE COUNTRIES.—

8 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days
9 after the date of the enactment of this Act, and
10 every 5 years thereafter, the Secretary of State, in
11 consultation with the Department of Homeland Se-
12 curity, the United States Agency for International
13 Development, and the National Oceanic and Atmos-
14 pheric Administration, shall compile a list of the 100
15 most climate-vulnerable countries and other adminis-
16 trative entities through notice and comment rule-
17 making.

18 (2) METHODOLOGY.—In compiling the list of
19 climate-vulnerable countries pursuant to paragraph
20 (1), the Secretary shall—

21 (A) use the best available scientific re-
22 sources, including relevant data—

23 (i) published by the Intergovernmental
24 Panel on Climate Change;

1 (ii) available through the World
2 Bank’s Climate Risk Country Profiles; and

3 (iii) available through the Notre Dame
4 Global Adaptation Initiative (ND–GAIN)
5 Country Index;

6 (B) consider the frequency and severity of
7 climate-related environmental disasters;

8 (C) consider the impact of both slow- and
9 sudden-onset climate-related environmental dis-
10 asters;

11 (D) consider the interaction of these cli-
12 mate-related environmental disasters with each
13 country’s preparedness and resilience capacity,
14 including physical and social infrastructure; and

15 (E) consult with a committee of agency ex-
16 perts, including climate scientists, immigration
17 and refugee lawyers, and adaptation specialists.

18 **SEC. 5. GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE RESILIENCE STRATEGY.**

19 Section 117 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961
20 (22 U.S.C. 2151p) is amended—

21 (1) in subsection (b)—

22 (A) by inserting “(1)” after “(b)”; and

23 (B) by adding at the end the following:

1 “(2)(A) The President is authorized to furnish assist-
2 ance to programs and initiatives, including multilateral
3 initiatives and funds that—

4 “(i) promote resilience among communities fac-
5 ing harmful impacts from climate change;

6 “(ii) reduce the vulnerability of persons affected
7 by climate change;

8 “(iii) address permanent loss and damage faced
9 by affected marginalized communities;

10 “(iv) provide support for community recovery,
11 reconstruction, and rehabilitation after climate-re-
12 lated environmental disasters;

13 “(v) promote sustainable peace through co-
14 operation on efforts to protect the earth against en-
15 vironmental threats and to address and minimize cli-
16 mate change; and

17 “(vi) support climate-resilient programming
18 that promotes peacebuilding to avert conflict due to
19 scarcity of resources caused by climate change, in-
20 cluding scarcity of water, food, and grazing areas.

21 “(B) There shall be, in the Department of State, a
22 Coordinator of Climate Change Resilience, who shall co-
23 ordinate the assistance authorized under subparagraph
24 (A).”; and

25 (2) by adding at the end the following:

1 “(d)(1) The Secretary of State, in coordination with
2 the Administrator of the United States Agency for Inter-
3 national Development (referred to in this subsection as
4 ‘USAID’) and the Special Presidential Envoy for Climate,
5 shall establish a 10-year, comprehensive, integrated strat-
6 egy, which shall be known as the ‘Global Climate Change
7 Resilience Strategy’, to mitigate the impacts of climate
8 change on displacement and humanitarian emergencies.

9 “(2) The Global Climate Change Resilience Strategy
10 shall—

11 “(A) focus on addressing slow-onset and rapid-
12 onset effects of climate change;

13 “(B) consider the effects of climate change;

14 “(C) describe the key features of successful
15 strategies to prevent such conditions;

16 “(D) include specific objectives and multise-
17 toral approaches to the effects of climate change;

18 “(E) describe approaches that ensure national
19 leadership, as appropriate, and substantively engage
20 with civil society, local partners, and the affected
21 communities, including marginalized populations and
22 underserved populations, in the design, implementa-
23 tion, and monitoring of climate change programs to
24 best safeguard the future of those subject to dis-
25 placement;

1 “(F) assign roles for relevant Federal agencies
2 to avoid duplication of efforts, while ensuring that—

3 “(i) the Department of State is responsible
4 for—

5 “(I) leading the Global Climate
6 Change Resilience Strategy;

7 “(II) establishing United States for-
8 eign policy with respect to such strategy;

9 “(III) advancing diplomatic and polit-
10 ical efforts with respect to such strategy;

11 “(IV) guiding security assistance and
12 related civilian security efforts to mitigate
13 climate change threats; and

14 “(V) providing overseas humanitarian
15 assistance—

16 “(aa) to respond to international
17 displacement caused by climate
18 change; and

19 “(bb) to coordinate the pursuit of
20 protection and durable solutions for
21 climate-displaced persons, including
22 resettlement into the United States;

23 “(ii) USAID is—

1 “(I) responsible for overseeing pro-
2 grams to prevent the effects of climate
3 change; and

4 “(II) the lead implementing agency
5 for—

6 “(aa) providing overseas humani-
7 tarian assistance to respond to inter-
8 nal displacement and food insecurity
9 caused by climate change; and

10 “(bb) developing a related non-
11 security program policy related to
12 building resilience and achieving re-
13 covery; and

14 “(iii) other Federal agencies support the
15 activities of the Department of State and
16 USAID, as appropriate, with the concurrence of
17 the Secretary of State and the USAID Admin-
18 istrator;

19 “(G) describe programs that Federal agencies
20 will undertake to achieve the stated objectives, in-
21 cluding descriptions of existing programs and fund-
22 ing by fiscal year and account;

23 “(H) identify mechanisms to improve coordina-
24 tion between the United States, foreign govern-
25 ments, and international organizations, including the

1 World Bank, the United Nations, regional organiza-
2 tions, and private sector organizations;

3 “(I) address efforts to expand public-private
4 partnerships and leverage private sector resources;

5 “(J) describe the criteria, metrics, and mecha-
6 nisms for monitoring and evaluating the programs
7 and objectives in the Global Climate Change Resil-
8 ience Strategy;

9 “(K) describe how the Global Climate Change
10 Resilience Strategy will ensure that programs are
11 conflict-sensitive, country-led and context-specific;
12 and

13 “(L) describe how the Global Climate Change
14 Resilience Strategy is a means for peacebuilding,
15 and is incorporated into peacebuilding, and post-con-
16 flict plans and programs.

17 “(3) Not later than 270 days after the date of the
18 enactment of the Climate Displaced Persons Act, and an-
19 nually thereafter, the President shall submit a report to
20 the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate and
21 the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Rep-
22 resentatives, based in part on the information collected
23 pursuant to this section, that details the Global Climate
24 Change Resilience Strategy. The report shall be submitted

1 in unclassified form, but may include a classified annex,
2 if necessary.

3 “(4) Not later than 180 days after the date of the
4 enactment of the Climate Displaced Persons Act, the Sec-
5 retary of State and the Coordinator of Global Climate
6 Change Resilience shall brief the Committee on Foreign
7 Relations of the Senate and the Committee on Foreign
8 Affairs of the House of Representatives on the progress
9 made towards implementing the Global Climate Change
10 Resilience Strategy.

11 “(5)(A) Not later than 270 days after the date of
12 the enactment of the Climate Displaced Persons Act, and
13 annually thereafter, the Comptroller General of the United
14 States, in cooperation and consultation with the Secretary
15 of State, shall publish a report evaluating the progress
16 that the Federal Government has made toward incor-
17 porating climate change into policies of the Department
18 of State and USAID and describing the resources that
19 have been allocated for such purpose.

20 “(B) The report required under subparagraph (A)
21 shall assess—

22 “(i) the degree to which the Department of
23 State and USAID are—

24 “(I) developing climate change risk assess-
25 ments; and

1 “(II) providing guidance to missions on
2 how to include climate change risks in their in-
3 tegrated country strategies;

4 “(ii) whether the Department of State and
5 USAID have sufficient resources to fulfill the re-
6 quirements described in paragraph (2); and

7 “(iii) any areas in which the Department of
8 State and USAID may lack sufficient resources to
9 fulfill the requirements described in paragraph (2).”.

10 **SEC. 6. TRAINING IN CLIMATE CHANGE RESILIENCE.**

11 (a) FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICERS.—Section
12 708(a)(1) of the Foreign Service Act of 1980 (22 U.S.C.
13 4028(a)(1)) is amended—

14 (1) in subparagraph (C), by striking “and” at
15 the end;

16 (2) in subparagraph (D), by striking the period
17 at the end and inserting “; and”; and

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

19 “(E) for Foreign Service Officers who will
20 be assigned to a country from which climate-
21 displaced persons (as defined in section
22 101(a)(8) of the Immigration and Nationality
23 Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(8)) have been displaced,
24 instruction on climate displacement, including
25 the Global Climate Change Resilience Strategy

1 established pursuant to section 117(d) of the
2 Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C.
3 2151p(d)).”.

4 (b) USCIS OFFICERS.—The Secretary of Homeland
5 Security shall require U.S. Citizenship and Immigration
6 Services officers who review applications for admission as
7 a climate-displaced person (as defined in section 101(a)(8)
8 of the Immigration and Nationality Act, as amended by
9 section 3) to receive instruction on climate displacement,
10 including the Global Climate Change Resilience Strategy
11 established pursuant to section 117(d) of the Foreign As-
12 sistance Act of 1961, as added by section 5.

13 **SEC. 7. GUIDANCE ON THE HUMANITARIAN IMPACTS OF**
14 **CLIMATE CHANGE.**

15 Not later than 180 days after the date of the enact-
16 ment of this Act, and annually thereafter, the Secretary
17 of State shall provide guidance to each United States dip-
18 lomatic mission, in accordance with Executive Order
19 13677 (79 Fed. Reg. 58229; relating to climate-resilient
20 international development), to address the humanitarian
21 impacts associated with climate change.

22 **SEC. 8. ADMISSION OF CLIMATE-DISPLACED PERSONS.**

23 (a) ADMISSION OF CLIMATE-DISPLACED PERSONS.—

24 (1) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 1 of title II of the
25 Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1151 et

1 seq.) is amended by inserting after section 207 the
2 following:

3 **“SEC. 207A. CLIMATE-DISPLACED PERSONS.**

4 “(a) ADMISSION GOAL.—

5 “(1) IN GENERAL.—In addition to the refugees
6 admitted pursuant to section 207, the number of cli-
7 mate-displaced persons who may be admitted to the
8 United States under this section in any fiscal year
9 (beginning with fiscal year 2024) shall be not fewer
10 than the greater of—

11 “(A) 100,000; or

12 “(B) the number that the President deter-
13 mines pursuant to paragraph (2), before the be-
14 ginning of each such fiscal year, after appro-
15 priate consultation with Congress, to be justi-
16 fied by—

17 “(i) the data collected through the
18 process established pursuant to section 4
19 of the Climate Displaced Persons Act;

20 “(ii) other humanitarian concerns; or

21 “(iii) other national interests.

22 “(2) EFFECT OF NUMERICAL ADJUSTMENT.—If
23 a significant climate-related environmental disaster
24 occurs in 1 or more of the climate-vulnerable coun-
25 tries included on the most recent list compiled pur-

1 suant to section 4(c) of the Climate Displaced Per-
2 sons Act or if the President determines that the
3 number of climate-displaced persons who should be
4 admitted to the United States in a fiscal year based
5 on humanitarian concerns or other national interests
6 is greater than the number set forth in paragraph
7 (1)(A), the President shall—

8 “(A) set the admissions level for climate-
9 displaced persons at the same time as the
10 President determines the number of refugees
11 who may be admitted in such fiscal year under
12 section 207; and

13 “(B) follow all of the procedures relating
14 to refugee admissions under section 207, in-
15 cluding determinations of the President, after
16 appropriate consultation with Congress, to fix
17 the number of refugees to be admitted to the
18 United States during the current period (not to
19 exceed 12 months) in response to an emergency
20 refugee situation.

21 “(3) **EQUITABLE ALLOCATION.**—The President,
22 in consultation with the Department of State, the
23 Department of Homeland Security, the United
24 States Agency for International Development, the
25 National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration,

1 and other relevant Federal agencies, shall establish
2 a process by which admissions authorized under this
3 section shall be allocated in an equitable manner,
4 taking into consideration the list of 100 most cli-
5 mate-vulnerable countries and other administrative
6 entities compiled pursuant to section 4(c) of the Cli-
7 mate Displaced Persons Act and the demographic
8 data described in section 4(a) of such Act.

9 “(b) ADMISSIBILITY; APPLICATIONS.—

10 “(1) IN GENERAL.—

11 “(A) ADMISSIBILITY.—Subject to the nu-
12 merical limitation set forth in subsection (a),
13 the Secretary of Homeland Security, pursuant
14 to such regulations as the Secretary may pre-
15 scribe, may admit any climate-displaced person
16 under this section who—

17 “(i) is admissible;

18 “(ii) is not described in paragraph
19 (2); and

20 “(iii) is not described in section
21 208(b)(2).

22 “(B) APPLICATIONS.—Any noncitizen de-
23 scribed in subparagraph (A), regardless of such
24 noncitizen’s immigration status, may apply for

1 admission as a climate-displaced person if the
2 noncitizen—

3 “(i) is physically present in the
4 United States;

5 “(ii) arrives in the United States
6 (whether or not at a designated port of ar-
7 rival and including a noncitizen who is
8 brought to the United States after having
9 been interdicted in international or United
10 States waters); or

11 “(iii) applies at a designated applica-
12 tion center.

13 “(2) LIMITATIONS.—Except as provided in
14 paragraph (3), a noncitizen may not apply for status
15 as a climate-displaced person if—

16 “(A) the Secretary of Homeland Security
17 determines that such noncitizen may be re-
18 moved, pursuant to a bilateral or multilateral
19 agreement, to a country (other than the country
20 of the noncitizen’s nationality or, in the case of
21 a noncitizen having no nationality, the country
22 of the noncitizen’s last habitual residence) that
23 is outside of the zone in which the sudden or
24 progressive change in the environment obliged
25 the noncitizen to leave their residence, provided

1 that such determination does not violate the
2 human rights obligations of the United States;

3 “(B) the application is not filed within 1
4 year after the date of the noncitizen’s arrival in
5 the United States; or

6 “(C) an earlier application by the noncit-
7 izen for climate-displaced person status has
8 been denied.

9 “(3) EXCEPTIONS.—

10 “(A) UNACCOMPANIED NONCITIZEN CHIL-
11 DREN.—Paragraph (2) shall not apply to an
12 unaccompanied alien child (as defined in section
13 462(g) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002
14 (6 U.S.C. 279(g))).

15 “(B) CHANGED CIRCUMSTANCES.—Sub-
16 paragraphs (B) and (C) of paragraph (2) shall
17 not apply if the noncitizen demonstrates, to the
18 satisfaction of the Secretary of Homeland Secu-
19 rity, that—

20 “(i) extraordinary circumstances pre-
21 vented the noncitizen from filing an appli-
22 cation within the period specified in para-
23 graph (2)(B); or

1 “(ii) changed circumstances materially
2 affect the applicant’s eligibility for climate-
3 displaced person status.

4 “(C) REFERRALS AUTHORIZED.—The Sec-
5 retary of State may accept applications sub-
6 mitted on behalf of eligible applicants for cli-
7 mate-displaced person status by qualified inter-
8 national agencies.

9 “(4) CONTENTS.—Each application submitted
10 under this subsection shall contain such information
11 as the Secretary of State, in consultation with the
12 Secretary of Homeland Security, determines to be
13 necessary to determine whether the applicant is eli-
14 gible for admission as a climate-displaced person.

15 “(5) FEES.—

16 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in
17 subparagraph (B), an applicant for climate-dis-
18 placed person status shall not be charged a fee.

19 “(B) EXCEPTION.—If a noncitizen has ap-
20 plied for, and been denied, climate-displaced
21 person status on 2 or more previous occasions,
22 the Secretary of Homeland Security may charge
23 a reasonable fee for a third application and any
24 subsequent applications, which shall set at a

1 level equal to the average cost of adjudicating
2 such applications.

3 “(c) TREATMENT OF CLIMATE-DISPLACED PER-
4 SONS.—

5 “(1) IN GENERAL.—A noncitizen who qualifies
6 for climate-displaced person status under this sec-
7 tion shall be eligible for resettlement assistance, en-
8 titlement programs, and other benefits available to
9 refugees and asylees admitted pursuant to section
10 207.

11 “(2) TREATMENT OF CHILDREN AND
12 SPOUSE.—

13 “(A) IN GENERAL.—A spouse or a child
14 (as defined in subparagraph (A), (B), (C), (D),
15 or (E) of section 101(b)(1)) of a noncitizen who
16 is granted climate-displaced person status
17 under this section may, if not otherwise eligible
18 for such status, be granted the same status as
19 the climate-displaced person if accompanying,
20 or following to join, such noncitizen.

21 “(B) TREATMENT OF CHILDREN.—An un-
22 married noncitizen who seeks to accompany, or
23 follow to join, a parent or guardian granted cli-
24 mate-displaced person status under this section,
25 and who was younger than 21 years of age on

1 the date on which such parent or guardian ap-
2 plied for such status, shall continue to be classi-
3 fied as a child for purposes of this subsection
4 and section 209(b)(3), if the noncitizen reaches
5 21 years of age while such application is pend-
6 ing.

7 “(d) DEFINED TERM.—In this section, the term
8 ‘noncitizen’ means any person who is not a citizen or na-
9 tional of the United States.”.

10 (2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of con-
11 tents for the Immigration and Nationality Act (8
12 U.S.C. 1101 note) is amended by inserting after the
13 item relating to section 207 the following:

“Sec. 207A. Climate-displaced persons.”.

14 (b) ADJUSTMENT OF STATUS.—Section 209(a)(1) of
15 the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1159(a))
16 is amended, in the matter preceding subparagraph (A),
17 by inserting “or 207A” after “207”.

18 (c) SAVINGS PROVISION.—

19 (1) IN GENERAL.—Nothing in section 207A of
20 the Immigration and Nationality Act, as added by
21 subsection (a)(1), may be construed to affect the
22 United States commitment to the United States Ref-
23 ugee Admissions Program.

24 (2) ADDITIONAL PROTECTIONS.—The protec-
25 tions described in such section 207A are in addition

1 to the refugee admissions goal established by the
2 Presidential determination described in subsection
3 (a)(1)(B) of such section.

4 **SEC. 9. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

5 There are authorized to be appropriated such sums
6 as may be necessary to carry out this Act.

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