

116TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 6715

To require the removal of aliens in detention during a national emergency related to a communicable disease, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 5, 2020

Mr. GAETZ introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To require the removal of aliens in detention during a national emergency related to a communicable disease, 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 “Protect American Na-
5 tionals During Emergencies by Mitigating the Immigra-
6 tion Crisis Act” or the “PANDEMIC Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. EXPEDITED REMOVAL OF DETAINED ALIENS DUR-**
2 **ING A NATIONAL EMERGENCY RELATED TO A**
3 **COMMUNICABLE DISEASE.**

4 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—Notwithstanding any other provi-
5 sion of law, any unlawfully present alien who is detained
6 by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement during a
7 national emergency related to a communicable disease (re-
8 gardless of whether the alien was taken into custody be-
9 fore or during the national emergency related to a commu-
10 nicable disease) shall be removed from the United States
11 in a manner which eliminates the need for additional de-
12 tention at any processing center of the Department of
13 Homeland Security and in a manner which assures expedi-
14 tious removal.

15 (b) **APPLICABILITY TO CRIMINAL ALIENS.**—Sub-
16 section (a) shall not apply with respect to an alien against
17 whom charges for a crime of violence are pending.

18 **SEC. 3. DEFINITION.**

19 In this Act:

20 (1) The term “national emergency related to a
21 communicable disease” means—

22 (A) an emergency involving Federal pri-
23 mary responsibility determined to exist by the
24 President under section 501(b) of the Robert T.
25 Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assist-

1 ance Act (42 U.S.C. 5191(b)) with respect to a
2 communicable disease; or

3 (B) a national emergency declared by the
4 President under the National Emergency Act
5 (50 U.S.C. 1610 et seq.) with respect to a com-
6 municable disease.

7 (2) The term “alien” has the meaning given the
8 term under section 101 of the Immigration and Na-
9 tionality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101).

10 (3) The term “crime of violence” has the mean-
11 ing given the term under section 16 of title 18,
12 United States Code.

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