

118TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 8496

To amend the Immigration and Nationality Act with respect to the definition of protection determination and protection merits interview.

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 22, 2024

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

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## A BILL

To amend the Immigration and Nationality Act with respect to the definition of protection determination and protection merits interview.

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. COMBINED SCREENINGS.**

4       Section 101(a) of the Immigration and Nationality  
5       Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)) is amended by adding at the end  
6       the following:

7               “(53) The term ‘protection determination’  
8       means—

9               “(A) a screening conducted pursuant to  
10              section 235(b)(1)(B)(v); or

1           “(B) a screening to determine whether an  
2 alien is eligible for—

3           “(i) withholding of removal under sec-  
4 tion 241(b)(3); or

5           “(ii) protection under the Convention  
6 against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman  
7 or Degrading Treatment or Punishment,  
8 done at New York December 10, 1984,  
9 which includes the regulations imple-  
10 menting any law enacted pursuant to Arti-  
11 cle 3 of such convention.

12           “(54) The term ‘protection merits interview’  
13 means an interview to determine whether an alien—

14           “(A) meets the definition of refugee under  
15 paragraph (42), in accordance with the terms  
16 and conditions under section 208;

17           “(B) is eligible for withholding of removal  
18 under section 241(b)(3); or

19           “(C) is eligible for protection under the  
20 Convention against Torture and Other Cruel,  
21 Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punish-  
22 ment, done at New York December 10, 1984,  
23 which includes the regulations implementing

1 any law enacted pursuant to Article 3 of such  
2 convention.”.

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