

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 2783

To provide resettlement benefits for certain nationals of Afghanistan, and
for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 21, 2021

Mr. MERKLEY introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred
to the Committee on Finance

A BILL

To provide resettlement benefits for certain nationals of
Afghanistan, 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 “Welcoming Evacuees
5 Coming from Overseas to Mitigate Effects of Displace-
6 ment Act of 2021” or the “WELCOMED Act of 2021”.

7 **SEC. 2. RESETTLEMENT BENEFITS FOR AFGHAN EN-**
8 **TRANTS.**

9 (a) DEFINITION OF AFGHAN ENTRANT.—In this Act,
10 the term “Afghan entrant” means a national of Afghani-

1 stan (or in the case of an alien having no nationality, a
2 person who last habitually resided in Afghanistan) who is
3 paroled into the United States pursuant to section
4 212(d)(5) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8
5 U.S.C. 1182(d)(5)) during the period beginning on July
6 1, 2021, and ending on July 1, 2025.

7 (b) RESETTLEMENT SUPPORT AUTHORIZED.—Not-
8 withstanding any other provision of law, an Afghan en-
9 trant shall be eligible for resettlement assistance (includ-
10 ing services for unaccompanied refugee minors) and any
11 other Federal public benefit (as defined in section 401(c)
12 of the Personal Responsibility and Work Reconciliation
13 Act of 1996 (8 U.S.C. 1611(c))) in the same manner as
14 an alien admitted to the United States under section 207
15 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1157).

16 (c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
17 are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be
18 necessary to carry out this section.

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