

Calendar No. 249

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION**S. 3343**

To provide that United States citizens evacuating Israel shall not be required to reimburse the United States Government, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

NOVEMBER 16 (legislative day, NOVEMBER 15), 2023

Mrs. BLACKBURN (for herself and Ms. ROSEN) introduced the following bill;
which was read the first time

NOVEMBER 27, 2023

Read the second time and placed on the calendar

A BILL

To provide that United States citizens evacuating Israel shall not be required to reimburse the United States Government, 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 “Saving Americans in
5 Foreign Evacuations (SAFE) Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. REQUIREMENT TO PROVIDE FREE TRAVEL TO**
2 **UNITED STATES CITIZENS EVACUATING**
3 **ISRAEL.**

4 Notwithstanding section 4(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the State
5 Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 (22 U.S.C.
6 2671(b)(2)(A)(ii)), private United States citizens and per-
7 manent resident aliens evacuating Israel in response to the
8 October 7, 2023, attack by Hamas and the resulting war
9 and civil unrest shall not be required to reimburse the
10 United States Government for travel organized by the De-
11 partment of State during fiscal year 2024 pursuant to
12 such section.

13 **SEC. 3. REPORT.**

14 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 185 days after the
15 date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State
16 shall submit to Congress a report examining the feasibility
17 of expanding the reimbursement requirement under sec-
18 tion (2) to future evacuations worldwide.

19 (b) **ELEMENTS.**—The report required under sub-
20 section (a) shall include the following elements:

21 (1) The estimated annual costs of providing
22 cost-free flights and other forms of transportation.

23 (2) A description of the additional responsibil-
24 ities the Department would bear under such a re-
25 quirement.

1 (3) A description of additional authorities the
2 Department would need to under such a require-
3 ment.

4 (4) A description of moral hazard issues that
5 may arise from such a requirement.

6 **SEC. 4. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

7 There is authorized to be appropriated \$2,000,000
8 for fiscal year 2024 for the Department of State to carry
9 out activities under this Act.

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