

118TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# S. 3811

To amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to clarify the authority of immigration judges to sanction any contempt of the judge’s authority.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 27, 2024

Mr. KENNEDY (for himself, Mr. CRUZ, and Mrs. BLACKBURN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

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## A BILL

To amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to clarify the authority of immigration judges to sanction any contempt of the judge’s authority.

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 “Empowering Immigra-  
5 tion Courts Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. CONTEMPT AUTHORITY OF IMMIGRATION JUDGES.**

7 Section 240(b)(1) of the Immigration and Nationality  
8 Act (8 U.S.C. 1229a(b)(1)) is amended by striking the  
9 last sentence and inserting the following: “The immigra-

1 tion judge is authorized to sanction, by fine, any conduct  
2 constituting contempt of the judge's authority under this  
3 Act, in accordance with section 401 of title 18, United  
4 States Code.”.

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