

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. _____

To terminate Federal benefits for noncitizens, to authorize the denaturalization of naturalized citizens who undermine domestic tranquility, to expand expedited removal authority, to require mandatory revetting of nationals of Afghanistan, and to provide for automatic termination of temporary protected status, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

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

A BILL

To terminate Federal benefits for noncitizens, to authorize the denaturalization of naturalized citizens who undermine domestic tranquility, to expand expedited removal authority, to require mandatory revetting of nationals of Afghanistan, and to provide for automatic termination of temporary protected status, 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 “American Citizens
5 First Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. TERMINATION OF FEDERAL BENEFITS FOR NON-**
2 **CITIZENS.**

3 Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no per-
4 son who is not a citizen or national of the United States
5 shall be eligible for any Federal public benefit (as defined
6 in section 401(c) of the Personal Responsibility and Work
7 Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 (8 U.S.C.
8 1611(c))), including—

- 9 (1) any form of welfare or needs-based cash as-
10 sistance;
11 (2) Medicaid (except emergency medical serv-
12 ices);
13 (3) the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Pro-
14 gram or food stamps;
15 (4) Federal housing assistance;
16 (5) Federal student financial aid; and
17 (6) the refundable portion of any tax credit
18 under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

19 **SEC. 3. DENATURALIZATION FOR ACTS UNDERMINING DO-**
20 **MESTIC TRANQUILITY.**

21 Section 340 of the Immigration and Nationality Act
22 (8 U.S.C. 1451) is amended by adding at the end the fol-
23 lowing:

24 “(i) Any naturalized citizen who, after naturalization,
25 is convicted of, or credibly found by the Secretary of
26 Homeland Security to have participated in, any riot, un-

1 lawful protest involving violence or property destruction,
2 or any act intended to overthrow or disrupt the constitu-
3 tional order of the United States may be denaturalized
4 and removed pursuant to expedited proceedings under sec-
5 tion 238, regardless of the period of time elapsed since
6 the date on which the citizen was naturalized.”.

7 **SEC. 4. EXPEDITED REMOVAL EXPANSION.**

8 Section 235(b) of the Immigration and Nationality
9 Act (8 U.S.C. 1225(b)) is amended—

10 (1) in paragraph (1)(A)(iii), by amending sub-
11 clause (II) to read as follows:

12 “(II) ALIEN DESCRIBED.—An
13 alien described in this subclause is an
14 alien who has not been admitted or
15 paroled into the United States and
16 who is present in the United States
17 without having been admitted or pa-
18 roled, regardless of the period of time
19 elapsed since the date on which such
20 alien entered the United States.”; and

21 (2) by adding at the end the following:

22 “(5) APPLICABILITY.—The Secretary of Home-
23 land Security—

1 “(A) shall carry out expedited removal to
2 the fullest extent permitted by this subsection;
3 and

4 “(B) shall not grant any discretionary ex-
5 ception to such expedited removal except in a
6 case involving a credible fear of persecution
7 claim that is upheld after review.”.

8 **SEC. 5. MANDATORY COMPREHENSIVE SECURITY REVIEW**
9 **OF CERTAIN NATIONALS OF AFGHANISTAN**
10 **ADMITTED OR PAROLED INTO THE UNITED**
11 **STATES.**

12 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Homeland Secu-
13 rity shall—

14 (1) conduct a comprehensive security review, in-
15 cluding re-interviews and biometric checks, of each
16 national of Afghanistan admitted as a refugee or
17 pursuant to a special immigrant visa, or paroled into
18 the United States, during the period beginning on
19 January 20, 2021, and the date of the enactment of
20 this Act; and

21 (2) upon completion of such review, submit to
22 Congress a certification of such completion.

23 (b) EXPEDITED REMOVAL FOR SECURITY RISKS.—
24 Any individual subject to review under subsection (a) who
25 the Secretary of Homeland Security determines poses a

1 risk to national security or public safety shall be subject
2 to expedited removal under section 235(b)(1) of the Immi-
3 gration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1225(b)(1)).

4 (c) SUSPENSION OF AFGHAN SPECIAL IMMIGRANT
5 VISA AND REFUGEE PROCESSING.—Effective imme-
6 diately, the processing of applications by nationals of Af-
7 ghanistan for special immigrant or refugee status shall be
8 suspended until the date on which the certification under
9 subsection (a)(2) is submitted.

10 (d) LIMITATION ON FUNDS FOR RESETTLEMENT
11 SUPPORT.—No Federal funds may be used for resettle-
12 ment support for nationals of Afghanistan until the date
13 on which the certification under subsection (a)(2) is sub-
14 mitted.

15 **SEC. 6. TERMINATION OF TEMPORARY PROTECTED STATUS**
16 **FOR HIGH-RISK NATIONALS.**

17 Section 244 of the Immigration and Nationality Act
18 (8 U.S.C. 1254a) is amended by adding at the end the
19 following:

20 “(j) AUTOMATIC TERMINATION OF STATUS.—

21 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The temporary protected
22 status of nationals of a country designated under
23 subsection (b) shall automatically terminate—

1 “(A) upon a finding by the Secretary of
2 Homeland Security that conditions in such
3 country no longer warrant such designation; or

4 “(B) on the date on which the Secretary
5 submits a report under paragraph (2)(A)(ii) in-
6 dicating that the crime rate among such nation-
7 als exceeds the national average crime rate by
8 not less than 20 percent.

9 “(2) SEMIANNUAL CRIME RATE CALCULA-
10 TION.—

11 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180
12 days after the date of the enactment of this
13 subsection, and every 180 days thereafter, the
14 Secretary of Homeland Security shall—

15 “(i) calculate—

16 “(I) the crime rate among na-
17 tionals of each country designated
18 under subsection (b); and

19 “(II) the national average crime
20 rate; and

21 “(ii) submit a report to Congress that
22 describes such crime rates.

23 “(B) INCLUSION.—In calculating a crime
24 rate under subparagraph (A)(i), the Secretary

1 of Homeland Security shall include all offenses,
2 including—

3 “(i) civil offenses;

4 “(ii) traffic violations;

5 “(iii) misdemeanors; and

6 “(iv) felonies.

7 “(3) RETROACTIVE APPLICATION.—Paragraph
8 (1) shall apply retroactively to designations made
9 under subsection (b) after January 20, 2021, includ-
10 ing the designations of Afghanistan, Haiti, Ven-
11 ezuela, and Somalia.”.