

AMENDMENT TO H.R. 5300
OFFERED BY MR. BERA OF CALIFORNIA

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

1 **SEC. __. SUPPORT FOR AFGHAN ALLIES.**

2 (a) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-
3 gress that—

4 (1) the United States must make every effort to
5 honor the contributions of, and continue efforts to
6 protect and support, Afghan allies who face threats
7 as a result of their association with the United
8 States;

9 (2) the State Department’s 2024 Country Re-
10 ports on Human Rights Practices noted that in Af-
11 ghanistan: “There were numerous reports Taliban
12 and ISIS-K members committed arbitrary and un-
13 lawful killings, many as retaliation against officials
14 associated with the pre-August 2021 government.”;

15 (3) the United States must authorize sufficient
16 Special Immigrant Visas (hereafter in this section
17 referred to as “SIVs”) to ensure that Afghan allies
18 who supported the United States’ mission in Af-
19 ghanistan are afforded a pathway to safety and pro-
20 tection; and

1 (4) any decision to suspend or delay the deci-
2 sion-making process on applications for refugee sta-
3 tus undermines United States efforts to bring Af-
4 ghan allies to safety and is inconsistent with United
5 States commitments.

6 (b) STATEMENT OF POLICY.—It is the policy of the
7 United States to—

8 (1) continue to support Afghan allies and their
9 immediate family members through the SIV pro-
10 gram, the Priority 2 refugee resettlement program
11 (hereafter in this section referred to as the “P–2
12 program”, and other lawful avenues, including hu-
13 manitarian parole;

14 (2) ensure that sufficient resources and per-
15 sonnel are dedicated to processing SIV and P–2
16 cases in a timely and efficient manner; and

17 (3) avoid suspension or unnecessary delays in
18 refugee and SIV processing for Afghan nationals
19 who meet eligibility criteria.

20 (c) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 180 days
21 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary
22 shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees
23 a report that—

24 (1) details the frequency for the use of any
25 waiver authority under Executive Order 14163 (90

1 Fed. Reg. 8459; relating to realigning the United
2 States Refugee Admissions Program), to resettle Af-
3 ghan nationals;

4 (2) includes the number of Afghan nationals
5 processed under the SIV program and the P-2 pro-
6 gram since the date of the enactment of such Execu-
7 tive Order;

8 (3) the impact reductions in force and interrup-
9 tions in hiring new Foreign Service generalist classes
10 have had on the timeliness of processing visas and
11 waivers under such Executive Order;

12 (4) includes the total number of SIVs currently
13 available, as well as the total number of SIV applica-
14 tions that are pending or in process;

15 (5) the number of Afghans still present at
16 Camp As Sayliah in Qatar, the Emirates Humanitarian
17 City in the United Arab Emirates, and other
18 “lily pads” established to support Operation Endur-
19 ing Welcome and how the Department intends to ad-
20 judicate their eligibility for relocation to the United
21 States or a safe third country; and

22 (6) a description of contracts with or payments
23 made to nongovernmental organizations to relocate
24 Afghans from a “lily pad” to a third country.

