

**SUBSTITUTE TO THE AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE
OF A SUBSTITUTE
OFFERED BY M. _____**

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

1 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

2 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the
3 “American Dream and Promise Act of 2026”.

4 (b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for
5 this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

TITLE I—DREAM ACT OF 2026

Sec. 101. Short title.

Sec. 102. Permanent resident status on a conditional basis for certain long-term residents who entered the United States as children.

Sec. 103. Terms of permanent resident status on a conditional basis.

Sec. 104. Removal of conditional basis of permanent resident status.

Sec. 105. Restoration of State option to determine residency for purposes of higher education benefits.

TITLE II—AMERICAN PROMISE ACT OF 2026

Sec. 201. Short title.

Sec. 202. Adjustment of status for certain nationals of certain countries designated for temporary protected status or deferred enforced departure.

Sec. 203. Clarification.

TITLE III—GENERAL PROVISIONS

Sec. 301. Definitions.

Sec. 302. Submission of biometric and biographic data; background checks.

Sec. 303. Limitation on removal; application and fee exemption; and other conditions on eligible individuals.

Sec. 304. Determination of continuous presence and residence.

Sec. 305. Exemption from numerical limitations.

Sec. 306. Availability of administrative and judicial review.

Sec. 307. Documentation requirements.
Sec. 308. Rule making.
Sec. 309. Confidentiality of information.
Sec. 310. Grant program to assist eligible applicants.
Sec. 311. Provisions affecting eligibility for adjustment of status.
Sec. 312. Supplementary surcharge for appointed counsel.
Sec. 313. Annual report on provisional denial authority.

1 **TITLE I—DREAM ACT OF 2026**

2 **SEC. 101. SHORT TITLE.**

3 This title may be cited as the “Dream Act of 2026”.

4 **SEC. 102. PERMANENT RESIDENT STATUS ON A CONDI-** 5 **TIONAL BASIS FOR CERTAIN LONG-TERM** 6 **RESIDENTS WHO ENTERED THE UNITED** 7 **STATES AS CHILDREN.**

8 (a) **CONDITIONAL BASIS FOR STATUS.**—Notwith-
9 standing any other provision of law, and except as pro-
10 vided in section 104(c)(2), an alien shall be considered,
11 at the time of obtaining the status of an alien lawfully
12 admitted for permanent residence under this section, to
13 have obtained such status on a conditional basis subject
14 to the provisions of this title.

15 (b) **REQUIREMENTS.**—

16 (1) **IN GENERAL.**—Notwithstanding any other
17 provision of law, the Secretary or the Attorney Gen-
18 eral shall adjust to the status of an alien lawfully
19 admitted for permanent residence on a conditional
20 basis, or without the conditional basis as provided in
21 section 104(c)(2), an alien who is inadmissible or de-
22 portable from the United States, is subject to a

1 grant of Deferred Enforced Departure, has tem-
2 porary protected status under section 244 of the Im-
3 migration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1254a), or
4 is the son or daughter of an alien admitted as a non-
5 immigrant under subparagraphs (E)(i), (E)(ii),
6 (H)(i)(b), or (L) of section 101(a)(15) of such Act
7 (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(15)) if—

8 (A) the alien has been continuously phys-
9 ically present in the United States since Janu-
10 ary 1, 2021;

11 (B) the alien was 18 years of age or
12 younger on the date on which the alien entered
13 the United States and has continuously resided
14 in the United States since such entry;

15 (C) the alien—

16 (i) subject to paragraph (2), is not in-
17 admissible under paragraph (1), (6)(E),
18 (6)(G), (8), or (10) of section 212(a) of
19 the Immigration and Nationality Act (8
20 U.S.C. 1182(a));

21 (ii) has not ordered, incited, assisted,
22 or otherwise participated in the persecution
23 of any person on account of race, religion,
24 nationality, membership in a particular so-
25 cial group, or political opinion; and

1 (iii) is not barred from adjustment of
2 status under this title based on the crimi-
3 nal and national security grounds de-
4 scribed under subsection (c), subject to the
5 provisions of such subsection; and

6 (D) the alien—

7 (i) has been admitted to an institution
8 of higher education;

9 (ii) has been admitted to an area ca-
10 reer and technical education school at the
11 postsecondary level;

12 (iii) in the United States, has ob-
13 tained—

14 (I) a high school diploma or a
15 commensurate alternative award from
16 a public or private high school;

17 (II) a General Education Devel-
18 opment credential, a high school
19 equivalency diploma recognized under
20 State law, or another similar State-
21 authorized credential;

22 (III) a credential or certificate
23 from an area career and technical
24 education school at the secondary
25 level; or

1 (IV) a recognized postsecondary
2 credential; or

3 (iv) is enrolled in secondary school or
4 in an education program assisting students
5 in—

6 (I) obtaining a high school di-
7 ploma or its recognized equivalent
8 under State law;

9 (II) passing the General Edu-
10 cation Development test, a high school
11 equivalence diploma examination, or
12 other similar State-authorized exam;

13 (III) obtaining a certificate or
14 credential from an area career and
15 technical education school providing
16 education at the secondary level; or

17 (IV) obtaining a recognized post-
18 secondary credential.

19 (2) WAIVER OF GROUNDS OF INADMIS-
20 SIBILITY.—With respect to any benefit under this
21 title, and in addition to the waivers under subsection
22 (c)(2), the Secretary may waive the grounds of inad-
23 missibility under paragraph (1), (6)(E), (6)(G), or
24 (10)(D) of section 212(a) of the Immigration and
25 Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1182(a)) for humanitarian

1 purposes, for family unity, or because the waiver is
2 otherwise in the public interest.

3 (3) APPLICATION FEE.—

4 (A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may,
5 subject to an exemption under section 303(c),
6 require an alien applying under this section to
7 pay a reasonable fee that is commensurate with
8 the cost of processing the application but does
9 not exceed \$495.00.

10 (B) SPECIAL PROCEDURES FOR APPLI-
11 CANTS WITH DACA.—The Secretary shall estab-
12 lish a streamlined procedure for aliens who have
13 been granted DACA and who meet the require-
14 ments for renewal (under the terms of the pro-
15 gram in effect on January 1, 2017) to apply for
16 adjustment of status to that of an alien lawfully
17 admitted for permanent residence on a condi-
18 tional basis under this section, or without the
19 conditional basis as provided in section
20 104(c)(2). Such procedure shall not include a
21 requirement that the applicant pay a fee, except
22 that the Secretary may require an applicant
23 who meets the requirements for lawful perma-
24 nent residence without the conditional basis
25 under section 104(c)(2) to pay a fee that is

1 commensurate with the cost of processing the
2 application, subject to the exemption under sec-
3 tion 303(c).

4 (4) BACKGROUND CHECKS.—The Secretary
5 may not grant an alien permanent resident status on
6 a conditional basis under this section until the re-
7 quirements of section 302 are satisfied.

8 (5) MILITARY SELECTIVE SERVICE.—An alien
9 applying for permanent resident status on a condi-
10 tional basis under this section, or without the condi-
11 tional basis as provided in section 104(c)(2), shall
12 establish that the alien has registered under the
13 Military Selective Service Act (50 U.S.C. 3801 et
14 seq.), if the alien is subject to registration under
15 such Act.

16 (c) CRIMINAL AND NATIONAL SECURITY BARS.—

17 (1) GROUNDS OF INELIGIBILITY.—Except as
18 provided in paragraph (2), an alien is ineligible for
19 adjustment of status under this title (whether on a
20 conditional basis or without the conditional basis as
21 provided in section 104(c)(2)) if any of the following
22 apply:

23 (A) The alien is inadmissible under para-
24 graph (2) or (3) of section 212(a) of the Immi-
25 gration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1182(a)).

1 (B) Excluding any offense under State law
2 for which an essential element is the alien's im-
3 migration status, and any minor traffic offense,
4 the alien has been convicted of—

5 (i) any felony offense;

6 (ii) three or more misdemeanor of-
7 fenses (excluding simple possession of can-
8 nabis or cannabis-related paraphernalia,
9 any offense involving cannabis or cannabis-
10 related paraphernalia which is no longer
11 prosecutable in the State in which the con-
12 viction was entered, and any offense involv-
13 ing civil disobedience without violence) not
14 occurring on the same date, and not aris-
15 ing out of the same act, omission, or
16 scheme of misconduct; or

17 (iii) a misdemeanor offense of domes-
18 tic violence, unless the alien demonstrates
19 that such crime is related to the alien hav-
20 ing been—

21 (I) a victim of domestic violence,
22 sexual assault, stalking, child abuse or
23 neglect, abuse or neglect in later life,
24 or human trafficking;

1 (II) battered or subjected to ex-
2 treme cruelty; or

3 (III) a victim of criminal activity
4 described in section 101(a)(15)(U)(iii)
5 of the Immigration and Nationality
6 Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(15)(U)(iii)).

7 (2) WAIVERS FOR CERTAIN MISDEMEANORS.—
8 For humanitarian purposes, family unity, or if oth-
9 erwise in the public interest, the Secretary may—

10 (A) waive the grounds of inadmissibility
11 under subparagraphs (A), (C), and (D) of sec-
12 tion 212(a)(2) of the Immigration and Nation-
13 ality Act (8 U.S.C. 1182(a)(2)), unless the con-
14 viction forming the basis for inadmissibility
15 would otherwise render the alien ineligible
16 under paragraph (1)(B) (subject to subpara-
17 graph (B)); and

18 (B) for purposes of clauses (ii) and (iii) of
19 paragraph (1)(B), waive consideration of—

20 (i) one misdemeanor offense if the
21 alien has not been convicted of any offense
22 in the 5-year period preceding the date on
23 which the alien applies for adjustment of
24 status under this title; or

1 (ii) up to two misdemeanor offenses if
2 the alien has not been convicted of any of-
3 fense in the 10-year period preceding the
4 date on which the alien applies for adjust-
5 ment of status under this title.

6 (3) AUTHORITY TO CONDUCT SECONDARY RE-
7 VIEW.—

8 (A) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding an
9 alien's eligibility for adjustment of status under
10 this title, and subject to the procedures de-
11 scribed in this paragraph, the Secretary may,
12 as a matter of non-delegable discretion, provi-
13 sionally deny an application for adjustment of
14 status (whether on a conditional basis or with-
15 out the conditional basis as provided in section
16 104(c)(2)) if the Secretary, based on clear and
17 convincing evidence, which shall include credible
18 law enforcement information, determines that
19 the alien is described in subparagraph (B) or
20 (D).

21 (B) PUBLIC SAFETY.—An alien is de-
22 scribed in this subparagraph if—

23 (i) excluding simple possession of can-
24 nabis or cannabis-related paraphernalia,
25 any offense involving cannabis or cannabis-

1 related paraphernalia which is no longer
2 prosecutable in the State in which the con-
3 viction was entered, any offense under
4 State law for which an essential element is
5 the alien's immigration status, any offense
6 involving civil disobedience without vio-
7 lence, and any minor traffic offense, the
8 alien—

9 (I) has been convicted of a mis-
10 demeanor offense punishable by a
11 term of imprisonment of more than
12 30 days; or

13 (II) has been adjudicated delin-
14 quent in a State or local juvenile court
15 proceeding that resulted in a disposi-
16 tion ordering placement in a secure
17 facility; and

18 (ii) the alien poses a significant and
19 continuing threat to public safety related
20 to such conviction or adjudication.

21 (C) PUBLIC SAFETY DETERMINATION.—

22 For purposes of subparagraph (B)(ii), the Sec-
23 retary shall consider the recency of the convic-
24 tion or adjudication; the length of any imposed
25 sentence or placement; the nature and serious-

1 ness of the conviction or adjudication, including
2 whether the elements of the offense include the
3 unlawful possession or use of a deadly weapon
4 to commit an offense or other conduct intended
5 to cause serious bodily injury; and any miti-
6 gating factors pertaining to the alien's role in
7 the commission of the offense.

8 (D) GANG PARTICIPATION.—An alien is
9 described in this subparagraph if the alien has,
10 within the 5 years immediately preceding the
11 date of the application, knowingly, willfully, and
12 voluntarily participated in offenses committed
13 by a criminal street gang (as described in sub-
14 sections (a) and (c) of section 521 of title 18,
15 United States Code) with the intent to promote
16 or further the commission of such offenses.

17 (E) EVIDENTIARY LIMITATION.—For pur-
18 poses of subparagraph (D), allegations of gang
19 membership obtained from a State or Federal
20 in-house or local database, or a network of
21 databases used for the purpose of recording and
22 sharing activities of alleged gang members
23 across law enforcement agencies, shall not es-
24 tablish the participation described in such para-
25 graph.

1 (F) NOTICE.—

2 (i) IN GENERAL.—Prior to rendering
3 a discretionary decision under this para-
4 graph, the Secretary shall provide written
5 notice of the intent to provisionally deny
6 the application to the alien (or the alien's
7 counsel of record, if any) by certified mail
8 and, if an electronic mail address is pro-
9 vided, by electronic mail (or other form of
10 electronic communication). Such notice
11 shall—

12 (I) articulate with specificity all
13 grounds for the preliminary deter-
14 mination, including the evidence relied
15 upon to support the determination;
16 and

17 (II) provide the alien with not
18 less than 90 days to respond.

19 (ii) SECOND NOTICE.—Not more than
20 30 days after the issuance of the notice
21 under clause (i), the Secretary shall pro-
22 vide a second written notice that meets the
23 requirements of such clause.

24 (iii) NOTICE NOT RECEIVED.—Not-
25 withstanding any other provision of law, if

1 an applicant provides good cause for not
2 contesting a provisional denial under this
3 paragraph, including a failure to receive
4 notice as required under this subpara-
5 graph, the Secretary shall, upon a motion
6 filed by the alien, reopen an application for
7 adjustment of status under this title and
8 allow the applicant an opportunity to re-
9 spond, consistent with clause (i)(II).

10 (G) JUDICIAL REVIEW OF A PROVISIONAL
11 DENIAL.—

12 (i) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding
13 any other provision of law, if, after notice
14 and the opportunity to respond under sub-
15 paragraph (F), the Secretary provisionally
16 denies an application for adjustment of
17 status under this Act, the alien shall have
18 60 days from the date of the Secretary's
19 determination to seek review of such deter-
20 mination in an appropriate United States
21 district court.

22 (ii) SCOPE OF REVIEW AND DECISION.—Notwithstanding any other provi-
23 sion of law, review under paragraph (1)
24 shall be de novo and based solely on the
25

1 administrative record, except that the ap-
2 plicant shall be given the opportunity to
3 supplement the administrative record and
4 the Secretary shall be given the oppor-
5 tunity to rebut the evidence and arguments
6 raised in such submission. Upon issuing its
7 decision, the court shall remand the mat-
8 ter, with appropriate instructions, to the
9 Department of Homeland Security to
10 render a final decision on the application.

11 (iii) APPOINTED COUNSEL.—Notwith-
12 standing any other provision of law, an ap-
13 plicant seeking judicial review under clause
14 (i) shall be represented by counsel. Upon
15 the request of the applicant, counsel shall
16 be appointed for the applicant, in accord-
17 ance with procedures to be established by
18 the Attorney General within 90 days of the
19 date of the enactment of this Act, and
20 shall be funded in accordance with fees col-
21 lected and deposited in the Immigration
22 Counsel Account under section 312.

23 (4) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this sub-
24 section—

1 (A) the term “felony offense” means an of-
2 fense under Federal or State law that is pun-
3 ishable by a maximum term of imprisonment of
4 more than 1 year;

5 (B) the term “misdemeanor offense”
6 means an offense under Federal or State law
7 that is punishable by a term of imprisonment of
8 more than 5 days but not more than 1 year;
9 and

10 (C) the term “crime of domestic violence”
11 means any offense that has as an element the
12 use, attempted use, or threatened use of phys-
13 ical force against a person committed by a cur-
14 rent or former spouse of the person, by an indi-
15 vidual with whom the person shares a child in
16 common, by an individual who is cohabiting
17 with or has cohabited with the person as a
18 spouse, by an individual similarly situated to a
19 spouse of the person under the domestic or
20 family violence laws of the jurisdiction where
21 the offense occurs, or by any other individual
22 against a person who is protected from that in-
23 dividual’s acts under the domestic or family vio-
24 lence laws of the United States or any State,

1 Indian Tribal government, or unit of local gov-
2 ernment.

3 (d) LIMITATION ON REMOVAL OF CERTAIN ALIEN
4 MINORS.—An alien who is 18 years of age or younger and
5 meets the requirements under subparagraphs (A), (B),
6 and (C) of subsection (b)(1) shall be provided a reasonable
7 opportunity to meet the educational requirements under
8 subparagraph (D) of such subsection. The Attorney Gen-
9 eral or the Secretary may not commence or continue with
10 removal proceedings against such an alien.

11 (e) WITHDRAWAL OF APPLICATION.—The Secretary
12 shall, upon receipt of a request to withdraw an application
13 for adjustment of status under this section, cease proc-
14 essing of the application, and close the case. Withdrawal
15 of the application under this subsection shall not prejudice
16 any future application filed by the applicant for any immi-
17 gration benefit under this title or under the Immigration
18 and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101 et seq.).

19 **SEC. 103. TERMS OF PERMANENT RESIDENT STATUS ON A**
20 **CONDITIONAL BASIS.**

21 (a) PERIOD OF STATUS.—Permanent resident status
22 on a conditional basis is—

23 (1) valid for a period of 10 years, unless such
24 period is extended by the Secretary; and

25 (2) subject to revocation under subsection (c).

1 (b) NOTICE OF REQUIREMENTS.—At the time an
2 alien obtains permanent resident status on a conditional
3 basis, the Secretary shall provide notice to the alien re-
4 garding the provisions of this title and the requirements
5 to have the conditional basis of such status removed.

6 (c) REVOCATION OF STATUS.—The Secretary may
7 revoke the permanent resident status on a conditional
8 basis of an alien only if the Secretary—

9 (1) determines that the alien ceases to meet the
10 requirements under section 102(b)(1)(C); and

11 (2) prior to the revocation, provides the alien—

12 (A) notice of the proposed revocation; and

13 (B) the opportunity for a hearing to pro-
14 vide evidence that the alien meets such require-
15 ments or otherwise to contest the proposed rev-
16 ocation.

17 (d) RETURN TO PREVIOUS IMMIGRATION STATUS.—

18 An alien whose permanent resident status on a conditional
19 basis expires under subsection (a)(1) or is revoked under
20 subsection (c), shall return to the immigration status that
21 the alien had immediately before receiving permanent resi-
22 dent status on a conditional basis.

1 **SEC. 104. REMOVAL OF CONDITIONAL BASIS OF PERMA-**
2 **NENT RESIDENT STATUS.**

3 (a) ELIGIBILITY FOR REMOVAL OF CONDITIONAL
4 BASIS.—

5 (1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2),
6 the Secretary shall remove the conditional basis of
7 an alien's permanent resident status granted under
8 this title and grant the alien status as an alien law-
9 fully admitted for permanent residence if the alien—

10 (A) is described in section 102(b)(1)(C);

11 (B) has not abandoned the alien's resi-
12 dence in the United States during the period in
13 which the alien has permanent resident status
14 on a conditional basis; and

15 (C)(i) has obtained a degree from an insti-
16 tution of higher education, or has completed at
17 least 2 years, in good standing, of a program in
18 the United States leading to a bachelor's degree
19 or higher degree or a recognized postsecondary
20 credential from an area career and technical
21 education school providing education at the
22 postsecondary level;

23 (ii) has served in the Uniformed Services
24 for at least 2 years and, if discharged, received
25 an honorable discharge; or

1 (iii) demonstrates earned income for peri-
2 ods totaling at least 3 years and at least 75
3 percent of the time that the alien has had a
4 valid employment authorization, except that, in
5 the case of an alien who was enrolled in an in-
6 stitution of higher education, an area career
7 and technical education school to obtain a rec-
8 ognized postsecondary credential, or an edu-
9 cation program described in section
10 102(b)(1)(D)(iii), the Secretary shall reduce
11 such total 3-year requirement by the total of
12 such periods of enrollment.

13 (2) HARDSHIP EXCEPTION.—The Secretary
14 shall remove the conditional basis of an alien's per-
15 manent resident status and grant the alien status as
16 an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence
17 if the alien—

18 (A) satisfies the requirements under sub-
19 paragraphs (A) and (B) of paragraph (1);

20 (B) demonstrates compelling circumstances
21 for the inability to satisfy the requirements
22 under subparagraph (C) of such paragraph; and

23 (C) demonstrates that—

24 (i) the alien has a disability;

1 (ii) the alien is a full-time caregiver;

2 or

3 (iii) the removal of the alien from the
4 United States would result in hardship to
5 the alien or the alien's spouse, parent, or
6 child who is a national of the United
7 States or is lawfully admitted for perma-
8 nent residence.

9 (3) CITIZENSHIP REQUIREMENT.—

10 (A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in
11 subparagraph (B), the conditional basis of an
12 alien's permanent resident status granted under
13 this title may not be removed unless the alien
14 demonstrates that the alien satisfies the re-
15 quirements under section 312(a) of the Immi-
16 gration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1423(a)).

17 (B) EXCEPTION.—Subparagraph (A) shall
18 not apply to an alien who is unable to meet the
19 requirements under such section 312(a) due to
20 disability.

21 (4) APPLICATION FEE.—The Secretary may,
22 subject to an exemption under section 303(c), re-
23 quire aliens applying for removal of the conditional
24 basis of an alien's permanent resident status under

1 this section to pay a reasonable fee that is commen-
2 surate with the cost of processing the application.

3 (5) BACKGROUND CHECKS.—The Secretary
4 may not remove the conditional basis of an alien's
5 permanent resident status until the requirements of
6 section 302 are satisfied.

7 (b) TREATMENT FOR PURPOSES OF NATURALIZA-
8 TION.—

9 (1) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of title III of
10 the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1401
11 et seq.), an alien granted permanent resident status
12 on a conditional basis shall be considered to have
13 been admitted to the United States, and be present
14 in the United States, as an alien lawfully admitted
15 for permanent residence.

16 (2) LIMITATION ON APPLICATION FOR NATU-
17 RALIZATION.—An alien may not apply for natu-
18 ralization while the alien is in permanent resident
19 status on a conditional basis.

20 (c) TIMING OF APPROVAL OF LAWFUL PERMANENT
21 RESIDENT STATUS.—

22 (1) IN GENERAL.—An alien granted permanent
23 resident status on a conditional basis under this title
24 may apply to have such conditional basis removed at

1 any time after such alien has met the eligibility re-
2 quirements set forth in subsection (a).

3 (2) APPROVAL WITH REGARD TO INITIAL APPLI-
4 CATIONS.—

5 (A) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any
6 other provision of law, the Secretary or the At-
7 torney General shall adjust to the status of an
8 alien lawfully admitted for permanent resident
9 status without conditional basis, any alien
10 who—

11 (i) demonstrates eligibility for lawful
12 permanent residence status on a condi-
13 tional basis under section 102(b); and

14 (ii) subject to the exceptions described
15 in subsections (a)(2) and (a)(3)(B) of this
16 section, already has fulfilled the require-
17 ments of paragraphs (1) and (3) of sub-
18 section (a) of this section at the time such
19 alien first submits an application for bene-
20 fits under this title.

21 (B) BACKGROUND CHECKS.—Subsection
22 (a)(5) shall apply to an alien seeking lawful
23 permanent resident status without conditional
24 basis in an initial application in the same man-
25 ner as it applies to an alien seeking removal of

1 the conditional basis of an alien's permanent
2 resident status. Section 102(b)(4) shall not be
3 construed to require the Secretary to conduct
4 more than one identical security or law enforce-
5 ment background check on such an alien.

6 (C) APPLICATION FEES.—In the case of an
7 alien seeking lawful permanent resident status
8 without conditional basis in an initial applica-
9 tion, the alien shall pay the fee required under
10 subsection (a)(4), subject to the exemption al-
11 lowed under section 303(c), but shall not be re-
12 quired to pay the application fee under section
13 102(b)(3).

14 **SEC. 105. RESTORATION OF STATE OPTION TO DETERMINE**
15 **RESIDENCY FOR PURPOSES OF HIGHER EDU-**
16 **CATION BENEFITS.**

17 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 505 of the Illegal Immi-
18 gration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996
19 (8 U.S.C. 1623) is repealed.

20 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The repeal under subsection
21 (a) shall take effect as if included in the original enact-
22 ment of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant
23 Responsibility Act of 1996 (division C of Public Law 104–
24 208; 110 Stat. 3009–546).

1 **TITLE II—AMERICAN PROMISE**
2 **ACT OF 2026**

3 **SEC. 201. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This title may be cited as the “American Promise Act
5 of 2026”.

6 **SEC. 202. ADJUSTMENT OF STATUS FOR CERTAIN NATION-**
7 **ALS OF CERTAIN COUNTRIES DESIGNATED**
8 **FOR TEMPORARY PROTECTED STATUS OR**
9 **DEFERRED ENFORCED DEPARTURE.**

10 (a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provi-
11 sion of law, the Secretary or the Attorney General shall
12 adjust to the status of an alien lawfully admitted for per-
13 manent residence, an alien described in subsection (b) if
14 the alien—

15 (1) applies for such adjustment, including sub-
16 mitting any required documents under section 307,
17 not later than 3 years after the date of the enact-
18 ment of this Act;

19 (2) has been continuously physically present in
20 the United States for a period of not less than 3
21 years; and

22 (3) subject to subsection (c), is not inadmissible
23 under paragraph (1), (2), (3), (6)(D), (6)(E),
24 (6)(F), (6)(G), (8), or (10) of section 212(a) of the

1 Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C.
2 1182(a)).

3 (b) ALIENS ELIGIBLE FOR ADJUSTMENT OF STA-
4 TUS.—An alien shall be eligible for adjustment of status
5 under this section if the alien is an individual—

6 (1) who—

7 (A) is a national of a foreign state (or part
8 thereof) (or in the case of an alien having no
9 nationality, is a person who last habitually re-
10 sided in such state) with a designation under
11 subsection (b) of section 244 of the Immigra-
12 tion and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1254a(b))
13 on January 1, 2017, who had or was otherwise
14 eligible for temporary protected status on such
15 date notwithstanding subsections (c)(1)(A)(iv)
16 and (c)(3)(C) of such section; and

17 (B) has not engaged in conduct since such
18 date that would render the alien ineligible for
19 temporary protected status under section
20 244(c)(2) of the Immigration and Nationality
21 Act (8 U.S.C. 1245a(c)(2)); or

22 (2) who was eligible for Deferred Enforced De-
23 parture as of January 20, 2021 and has not en-
24 gaged in conduct since that date that would render
25 the alien ineligible for Deferred Enforced Departure.

1 (c) WAIVER OF GROUNDS OF INADMISSIBILITY.—

2 (1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in para-
3 graph (2), with respect to any benefit under this
4 title, and in addition to any waivers that are other-
5 wise available, the Secretary may waive the grounds
6 of inadmissibility under paragraph (1), subpara-
7 graphs (A), (C), and (D) of paragraph (2), subpara-
8 graphs (D) through (G) of paragraph (6), or para-
9 graph (10)(D) of section 212(a) of the Immigration
10 and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1182(a)) for humani-
11 tarian purposes, for family unity, or because the
12 waiver is otherwise in the public interest.

13 (2) EXCEPTION.—The Secretary may not waive
14 a ground described in paragraph (1) if such inad-
15 missibility is based on a conviction or convictions,
16 and such conviction or convictions would otherwise
17 render the alien ineligible under section
18 244(c)(2)(B) of the Immigration and Nationality
19 Act (8 U.S.C. 1254a(c)(2)(B)).

20 (d) APPLICATION.—

21 (1) FEE.—The Secretary shall, subject to an
22 exemption under section 303(c), require an alien ap-
23 plying for adjustment of status under this section to
24 pay a reasonable fee that is commensurate with the

1 cost of processing the application, but does not ex-
2 ceed \$1,140.

3 (2) BACKGROUND CHECKS.—The Secretary
4 may not grant an alien permanent resident status on
5 a conditional basis under this section until the re-
6 quirements of section 302 are satisfied.

7 (3) WITHDRAWAL OF APPLICATION.—The Sec-
8 retary of Homeland Security shall, upon receipt of
9 a request to withdraw an application for adjustment
10 of status under this section, cease processing of the
11 application and close the case. Withdrawal of the ap-
12 plication under this subsection shall not prejudice
13 any future application filed by the applicant for any
14 immigration benefit under this title or under the Im-
15 migration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101 et
16 seq.).

17 **SEC. 203. CLARIFICATION.**

18 Section 244(f)(4) of the Immigration and Nationality
19 Act (8 U.S.C. 1254a(f)(4)) is amended by inserting after
20 “considered” the following: “as having been inspected and
21 admitted into the United States, and”.

22 **TITLE III—GENERAL**
23 **PROVISIONS**

24 **SEC. 301. DEFINITIONS.**

25 (a) IN GENERAL.—In this Act:

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—Except as otherwise specifi-
2 cally provided, any term used in this Act that is
3 used in the immigration laws shall have the meaning
4 given such term in the immigration laws.

5 (2) APPROPRIATE UNITED STATES DISTRICT
6 COURT.—The term “appropriate United States dis-
7 trict court” means the United States District Court
8 for the District of Columbia or the United States
9 district court with jurisdiction over the alien’s prin-
10 cipal place of residence.

11 (3) AREA CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION
12 SCHOOL.—The term “area career and technical edu-
13 cation school” has the meaning given such term in
14 section 3 of the Carl D. Perkins Career and Tech-
15 nical Education Act of 2006 (20 U.S.C. 2302).

16 (4) DACA.—The term “DACA” means de-
17 ferred action granted to an alien pursuant to the
18 Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals policy an-
19 nounced by the Secretary of Homeland Security on
20 June 15, 2012.

21 (5) DISABILITY.—The term “disability” has the
22 meaning given such term in section 3(1) of the
23 Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C.
24 12102(1)).

1 (6) FEDERAL POVERTY LINE.—The term “Fed-
2 eral poverty line” has the meaning given such term
3 in section 213A(h) of the Immigration and Nation-
4 ality Act (8 U.S.C. 1183a).

5 (7) HIGH SCHOOL; SECONDARY SCHOOL.—The
6 terms “high school” and “secondary school” have
7 the meanings given such terms in section 8101 of
8 the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of
9 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7801).

10 (8) IMMIGRATION LAWS.—The term “immigra-
11 tion laws” has the meaning given such term in sec-
12 tion 101(a)(17) of the Immigration and Nationality
13 Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(17)).

14 (9) INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—The
15 term “institution of higher education”—

16 (A) except as provided in subparagraph
17 (B), has the meaning given such term in section
18 102 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20
19 U.S.C. 1002); and

20 (B) does not include an institution of high-
21 er education outside of the United States.

22 (10) RECOGNIZED POSTSECONDARY CREDEN-
23 TIAL.—The term “recognized postsecondary creden-
24 tial” has the meaning given such term in section 3

1 of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act
2 (29 U.S.C. 3102).

3 (11) SECRETARY.—Except as otherwise specifi-
4 cally provided, the term “Secretary” means the Sec-
5 retary of Homeland Security.

6 (12) UNIFORMED SERVICES.—The term “Uni-
7 formed Services” has the meaning given the term
8 “uniformed services” in section 101(a) of title 10,
9 United States Code.

10 (b) TREATMENT OF EXPUNGED CONVICTIONS.—For
11 purposes of adjustment of status under this Act, the terms
12 “convicted” and “conviction”, as used in this Act and in
13 sections 212 and 244 of the Immigration and Nationality
14 Act (8 U.S.C. 1182, 1254a), do not include a judgment
15 that has been expunged or set aside, that resulted in a
16 rehabilitative disposition, or the equivalent.

17 **SEC. 302. SUBMISSION OF BIOMETRIC AND BIOGRAPHIC**
18 **DATA; BACKGROUND CHECKS.**

19 (a) SUBMISSION OF BIOMETRIC AND BIOGRAPHIC
20 DATA.—The Secretary may not grant an alien adjustment
21 of status under this Act, on either a conditional or perma-
22 nent basis, unless the alien submits biometric and bio-
23 graphic data, in accordance with procedures established
24 by the Secretary. The Secretary shall provide an alter-
25 native procedure for aliens who are unable to provide such

1 biometric or biographic data because of a physical impair-
2 ment.

3 (b) BACKGROUND CHECKS.—The Secretary shall use
4 biometric, biographic, and other data that the Secretary
5 determines appropriate to conduct security and law en-
6 forcement background checks and to determine whether
7 there is any criminal, national security, or other factor
8 that would render the alien ineligible for adjustment of
9 status under this Act, on either a conditional or perma-
10 nent basis. The status of an alien may not be adjusted,
11 on either a conditional or permanent basis, unless security
12 and law enforcement background checks are completed to
13 the satisfaction of the Secretary.

14 **SEC. 303. LIMITATION ON REMOVAL; APPLICATION AND**
15 **FEE EXEMPTION; AND OTHER CONDITIONS**
16 **ON ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUALS.**

17 (a) LIMITATION ON REMOVAL.—An alien who ap-
18 pears to be prima facie eligible for relief under this Act
19 shall be given a reasonable opportunity to apply for such
20 relief and may not be removed until, subject to section
21 306(c)(2), a final decision establishing ineligibility for re-
22 lief is rendered.

23 (b) APPLICATION.—An alien present in the United
24 States who has been ordered removed or has been per-
25 mitted to depart voluntarily from the United States may,

1 notwithstanding such order or permission to depart, apply
2 for adjustment of status under this Act. Such alien shall
3 not be required to file a separate motion to reopen, recon-
4 sider, or vacate the order of removal. If the Secretary ap-
5 proves the application, the Secretary shall cancel the order
6 of removal. If the Secretary renders a final administrative
7 decision to deny the application, the order of removal or
8 permission to depart shall be effective and enforceable to
9 the same extent as if the application had not been made,
10 only after all available administrative and judicial rem-
11 edies have been exhausted.

12 (c) FEE EXEMPTION.—An applicant may be exempt-
13 ed from paying an application fee required under this Act
14 if the applicant—

15 (1) is 18 years of age or younger;

16 (2) received total income, during the 12-month
17 period immediately preceding the date on which the
18 applicant files an application under this Act, that is
19 less than 150 percent of the Federal poverty line;

20 (3) is in foster care or otherwise lacks any pa-
21 rental or other familial support; or

22 (4) cannot care for himself or herself because of
23 a serious, chronic disability.

24 (d) ADVANCE PAROLE.—During the period beginning
25 on the date on which an alien applies for adjustment of

1 status under this Act and ending on the date on which
2 the Secretary makes a final decision regarding such appli-
3 cation, the alien shall be eligible to apply for advance pa-
4 role. Section 101(g) of the Immigration and Nationality
5 Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(g)) shall not apply to an alien granted
6 advance parole under this Act.

7 (e) EMPLOYMENT.—An alien whose removal is stayed
8 pursuant to this Act, who may not be placed in removal
9 proceedings pursuant to this Act, or who has pending an
10 application under this Act, shall, upon application to the
11 Secretary, be granted an employment authorization docu-
12 ment.

13 **SEC. 304. DETERMINATION OF CONTINUOUS PRESENCE**
14 **AND RESIDENCE.**

15 (a) EFFECT OF NOTICE TO APPEAR.—Any period of
16 continuous physical presence or continuous residence in
17 the United States of an alien who applies for permanent
18 resident status under this Act (whether on a conditional
19 basis or without the conditional basis as provided in sec-
20 tion 104(c)(2)) shall not terminate when the alien is
21 served a notice to appear under section 239(a) of the Im-
22 migration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1229(a)).

23 (b) TREATMENT OF CERTAIN BREAKS IN PRESENCE
24 OR RESIDENCE.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in para-
2 graphs (2) and (3), an alien shall be considered to
3 have failed to maintain—

4 (A) continuous physical presence in the
5 United States under this Act if the alien has
6 departed from the United States for any period
7 exceeding 90 days or for any periods, in the ag-
8 gregate, exceeding 180 days; and

9 (B) continuous residence in the United
10 States under this Act if the alien has departed
11 from the United States for any period exceeding
12 180 days, unless the alien establishes to the
13 satisfaction of the Secretary of Homeland Secu-
14 rity that the alien did not in fact abandon resi-
15 dence in the United States during such period.

16 (2) EXTENSIONS FOR EXTENUATING CIR-
17 CUMSTANCES.—The Secretary may extend the time
18 periods described in paragraph (1) for an alien who
19 demonstrates that the failure to timely return to the
20 United States was due to extenuating circumstances
21 beyond the alien’s control, including—

22 (A) the serious illness of the alien;

23 (B) death or serious illness of a parent,
24 grandparent, sibling, or child of the alien;

1 (C) processing delays associated with the
2 application process for a visa or other travel
3 document; or

4 (D) restrictions on international travel due
5 to the public health emergency declared by the
6 Secretary of Health and Human Services under
7 section 319 of the Public Health Service Act
8 (42 U.S.C. 247d) with respect to COVID-19.

9 (3) TRAVEL AUTHORIZED BY THE SEC-
10 RETARY.—Any period of travel outside of the United
11 States by an alien that was authorized by the Sec-
12 retary may not be counted toward any period of de-
13 parture from the United States under paragraph
14 (1).

15 (c) WAIVER OF PHYSICAL PRESENCE.—With respect
16 to aliens who were removed or departed the United States
17 on or after January 20, 2017, and who were continuously
18 physically present in the United States for at least 4 years
19 prior to such removal or departure, the Secretary may,
20 as a matter of discretion, waive the physical presence re-
21 quirement under section 102(b)(1)(A) or section
22 202(a)(2) for humanitarian purposes, for family unity, or
23 because a waiver is otherwise in the public interest. The
24 Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of State,
25 shall establish a procedure for such aliens to apply for re-

1 lief under section 102 or 202 from outside the United
2 States if they would have been eligible for relief under
3 such section, but for their removal or departure.

4 **SEC. 305. EXEMPTION FROM NUMERICAL LIMITATIONS.**

5 Nothing in this Act or in any other law may be con-
6 strued to apply a numerical limitation on the number of
7 aliens who may be granted permanent resident status
8 under this Act (whether on a conditional basis, or without
9 the conditional basis as provided in section 104(c)(2)).

10 **SEC. 306. AVAILABILITY OF ADMINISTRATIVE AND JUDI-**
11 **CIAL REVIEW.**

12 (a) ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW.—Not later than 30
13 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Sec-
14 retary shall provide to aliens who have applied for adjust-
15 ment of status under this Act a process by which an appli-
16 cant may seek administrative appellate review of a denial
17 of an application for adjustment of status, or a revocation
18 of such status.

19 (b) JUDICIAL REVIEW.—Except as provided in sub-
20 section (c), and notwithstanding any other provision of
21 law, an alien may seek judicial review of a denial of an
22 application for adjustment of status, or a revocation of
23 such status, under this Act in an appropriate United
24 States district court.

25 (c) STAY OF REMOVAL.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in para-
2 graph (2), an alien seeking administrative or judicial
3 review under this Act may not be removed from the
4 United States until a final decision is rendered es-
5 tablishing that the alien is ineligible for adjustment
6 of status under this Act.

7 (2) EXCEPTION.—The Secretary may remove
8 an alien described in paragraph (1) pending judicial
9 review if such removal is based on criminal or na-
10 tional security grounds described in this Act. Such
11 removal shall not affect the alien’s right to judicial
12 review under this Act. The Secretary shall promptly
13 return a removed alien if a decision to deny an ap-
14 plication for adjustment of status under this Act, or
15 to revoke such status, is reversed.

16 **SEC. 307. DOCUMENTATION REQUIREMENTS.**

17 (a) DOCUMENTS ESTABLISHING IDENTITY.—An
18 alien’s application for permanent resident status under
19 this Act (whether on a conditional basis, or without the
20 conditional basis as provided in section 104(c)(2)) may in-
21 clude, as evidence of identity, the following:

22 (1) A passport or national identity document
23 from the alien’s country of origin that includes the
24 alien’s name and the alien’s photograph or finger-
25 print.

1 (2) The alien's birth certificate and an identity
2 card that includes the alien's name and photograph.

3 (3) A school identification card that includes
4 the alien's name and photograph, and school records
5 showing the alien's name and that the alien is or
6 was enrolled at the school.

7 (4) A Uniformed Services identification card
8 issued by the Department of Defense.

9 (5) Any immigration or other document issued
10 by the United States Government bearing the alien's
11 name and photograph.

12 (6) A State-issued identification card bearing
13 the alien's name and photograph.

14 (7) Any other evidence determined to be cred-
15 ible by the Secretary.

16 (b) DOCUMENTS ESTABLISHING ENTRY, CONTIN-
17 UOUS PHYSICAL PRESENCE, LACK OF ABANDONMENT OF
18 RESIDENCE.—To establish that an alien was 18 years of
19 age or younger on the date on which the alien entered
20 the United States, and has continuously resided in the
21 United States since such entry, as required under section
22 102(b)(1)(B), that an alien has been continuously phys-
23 ically present in the United States, as required under sec-
24 tion 102(b)(1)(A) or 202(a)(2), or that an alien has not
25 abandoned residence in the United States, as required

1 under section 104(a)(1)(B), the alien may submit the fol-
2 lowing forms of evidence:

3 (1) Passport entries, including admission
4 stamps on the alien's passport.

5 (2) Any document from the Department of Jus-
6 tice or the Department of Homeland Security noting
7 the alien's date of entry into the United States.

8 (3) Records from any educational institution
9 the alien has attended in the United States.

10 (4) Employment records of the alien that in-
11 clude the employer's name and contact information,
12 or other records demonstrating earned income.

13 (5) Records of service from the Uniformed
14 Services.

15 (6) Official records from a religious entity con-
16 firming the alien's participation in a religious cere-
17 mony.

18 (7) A birth certificate for a child who was born
19 in the United States.

20 (8) Hospital or medical records showing med-
21 ical treatment or hospitalization, the name of the
22 medical facility or physician, and the date of the
23 treatment or hospitalization.

24 (9) Automobile license receipts or registration.

1 (10) Deeds, mortgages, or rental agreement
2 contracts.

3 (11) Rent receipts or utility bills bearing the
4 alien's name or the name of an immediate family
5 member of the alien, and the alien's address.

6 (12) Tax receipts.

7 (13) Insurance policies.

8 (14) Remittance records, including copies of
9 money order receipts sent in or out of the country.

10 (15) Travel records.

11 (16) Dated bank transactions.

12 (17) Two or more sworn affidavits from individ-
13 uals who are not related to the alien who have direct
14 knowledge of the alien's continuous physical pres-
15 ence in the United States, that contain—

16 (A) the name, address, and telephone num-
17 ber of the affiant; and

18 (B) the nature and duration of the rela-
19 tionship between the affiant and the alien.

20 (18) Any other evidence determined to be cred-
21 ible by the Secretary.

22 (c) DOCUMENTS ESTABLISHING ADMISSION TO AN
23 INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—To establish that
24 an alien has been admitted to an institution of higher edu-
25 cation, the alien may submit to the Secretary a document

1 from the institution of higher education certifying that the
2 alien—

3 (1) has been admitted to the institution; or

4 (2) is currently enrolled in the institution as a
5 student.

6 (d) DOCUMENTS ESTABLISHING RECEIPT OF A DE-
7 GREE FROM AN INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—

8 To establish that an alien has acquired a degree from an
9 institution of higher education in the United States, the
10 alien may submit to the Secretary a diploma or other doc-
11 ument from the institution stating that the alien has re-
12 ceived such a degree.

13 (e) DOCUMENTS ESTABLISHING RECEIPT OF A HIGH
14 SCHOOL DIPLOMA, GENERAL EDUCATIONAL DEVELOP-
15 MENT CREDENTIAL, OR A RECOGNIZED EQUIVALENT.—

16 To establish that in the United States an alien has earned
17 a high school diploma or a commensurate alternative
18 award from a public or private high school, has obtained
19 the General Education Development credential, or other-
20 wise has satisfied section 102(b)(1)(D)(iii), the alien may
21 submit to the Secretary the following:

22 (1) A high school diploma, certificate of comple-
23 tion, or other alternate award.

24 (2) A high school equivalency diploma or certifi-
25 cate recognized under State law.

1 (3) Evidence that the alien passed a State-au-
2 thorized exam, including the General Education De-
3 velopment test, in the United States.

4 (4) Evidence that the alien successfully com-
5 pleted an area career and technical education pro-
6 gram, such as a certification, certificate, or similar
7 alternate award.

8 (5) Evidence that the alien obtained a recog-
9 nized postsecondary credential.

10 (6) Any other evidence determined to be cred-
11 ible by the Secretary.

12 (f) DOCUMENTS ESTABLISHING ENROLLMENT IN AN
13 EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM.—To establish that an alien is
14 enrolled in any school or education program described in
15 section 102(b)(1)(D)(iv) or 104(a)(1)(C), the alien may
16 submit school records from the United States school that
17 the alien is currently attending that include—

18 (1) the name of the school; and

19 (2) the alien's name, periods of attendance, and
20 current grade or educational level.

21 (g) DOCUMENTS ESTABLISHING EXEMPTION FROM
22 APPLICATION FEES.—To establish that an alien is exempt
23 from an application fee under this Act, the alien may sub-
24 mit to the Secretary the following relevant documents:

1 (1) DOCUMENTS TO ESTABLISH AGE.—To es-
2 tablish that an alien meets an age requirement, the
3 alien may provide proof of identity, as described in
4 subsection (a), that establishes that the alien is 18
5 years of age or younger.

6 (2) DOCUMENTS TO ESTABLISH INCOME.—To
7 establish the alien’s income, the alien may provide—

8 (A) employment records or other records of
9 earned income, including records that have been
10 maintained by the Social Security Administra-
11 tion, the Internal Revenue Service, or any other
12 Federal, State, or local government agency;

13 (B) bank records; or

14 (C) at least two sworn affidavits from indi-
15 viduals who are not related to the alien and
16 who have direct knowledge of the alien’s work
17 and income that contain—

18 (i) the name, address, and telephone
19 number of the affiant; and

20 (ii) the nature and duration of the re-
21 lationship between the affiant and the
22 alien.

23 (3) DOCUMENTS TO ESTABLISH FOSTER CARE,
24 LACK OF FAMILIAL SUPPORT, OR SERIOUS, CHRONIC
25 DISABILITY.—To establish that the alien is in foster

1 care, lacks parental or familial support, or has a se-
2 rious, chronic disability, the alien may provide at
3 least two sworn affidavits from individuals who are
4 not related to the alien and who have direct knowl-
5 edge of the circumstances that contain—

6 (A) a statement that the alien is in foster
7 care, otherwise lacks any parental or other fa-
8 miliar support, or has a serious, chronic dis-
9 ability, as appropriate;

10 (B) the name, address, and telephone num-
11 ber of the affiant; and

12 (C) the nature and duration of the rela-
13 tionship between the affiant and the alien.

14 (h) DOCUMENTS ESTABLISHING QUALIFICATION FOR
15 HARDSHIP EXEMPTION.—To establish that an alien satis-
16 fies one of the criteria for the hardship exemption set forth
17 in section 104(a)(2)(C), the alien may submit to the Sec-
18 retary at least two sworn affidavits from individuals who
19 are not related to the alien and who have direct knowledge
20 of the circumstances that warrant the exemption, that
21 contain—

22 (1) the name, address, and telephone number of
23 the affiant; and

24 (2) the nature and duration of the relationship
25 between the affiant and the alien.

1 (i) DOCUMENTS ESTABLISHING SERVICE IN THE
2 UNIFORMED SERVICES.—To establish that an alien has
3 served in the Uniformed Services for at least 2 years and,
4 if discharged, received an honorable discharge, the alien
5 may submit to the Secretary—

6 (1) a Department of Defense form DD-214;

7 (2) a National Guard Report of Separation and
8 Record of Service form 22;

9 (3) personnel records for such service from the
10 appropriate Uniformed Service; or

11 (4) health records from the appropriate Uni-
12 formed Service.

13 (j) DOCUMENTS ESTABLISHING EARNED INCOME.—

14 (1) IN GENERAL.—An alien may satisfy the
15 earned income requirement under section
16 104(a)(1)(C)(iii) by submitting records that—

17 (A) establish compliance with such require-
18 ment; and

19 (B) have been maintained by the Social Se-
20 curity Administration, the Internal Revenue
21 Service, or any other Federal, State, or local
22 government agency.

23 (2) OTHER DOCUMENTS.—An alien who is un-
24 able to submit the records described in paragraph

25 (1) may satisfy the earned income requirement by

1 submitting at least two types of reliable documents
2 that provide evidence of employment or other forms
3 of earned income, including—

4 (A) bank records;

5 (B) business records;

6 (C) employer or contractor records;

7 (D) records of a labor union, day labor
8 center, or organization that assists workers in
9 employment;

10 (E) sworn affidavits from individuals who
11 are not related to the alien and who have direct
12 knowledge of the alien's work, that contain—

13 (i) the name, address, and telephone
14 number of the affiant; and

15 (ii) the nature and duration of the re-
16 lationship between the affiant and the
17 alien;

18 (F) remittance records; or

19 (G) any other evidence determined to be
20 credible by the Secretary.

21 (k) **AUTHORITY TO PROHIBIT USE OF CERTAIN DOC-**
22 **UMENTS.**—If the Secretary determines, after publication
23 in the Federal Register and an opportunity for public com-
24 ment, that any document or class of documents does not
25 reliably establish identity or that permanent resident sta-

1 tus under this Act (whether on a conditional basis, or
2 without the conditional basis as provided in section
3 104(c)(2)) is being obtained fraudulently to an unaccept-
4 able degree, the Secretary may prohibit or restrict the use
5 of such document or class of documents.

6 **SEC. 308. RULE MAKING.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the
8 date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall pub-
9 lish in the Federal Register interim final rules imple-
10 menting this Act, which shall allow eligible individuals to
11 immediately apply for relief under this Act. Notwith-
12 standing section 553 of title 5, United States Code, the
13 regulation shall be effective, on an interim basis, imme-
14 diately upon publication, but may be subject to change and
15 revision after public notice and opportunity for a period
16 of public comment. The Secretary shall finalize such rules
17 not later than 180 days after the date of publication.

18 (b) PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT.—The require-
19 ments under chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code,
20 (commonly known as the “Paperwork Reduction Act”)
21 shall not apply to any action to implement this Act.

22 **SEC. 309. CONFIDENTIALITY OF INFORMATION.**

23 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may not disclose
24 or use information (including information provided during
25 administrative or judicial review) provided in applications

1 filed under this Act or in requests for DACA for the pur-
2 pose of immigration enforcement.

3 (b) REFERRALS PROHIBITED.—The Secretary, based
4 solely on information provided in an application for adjust-
5 ment of status under this Act (including information pro-
6 vided during administrative or judicial review) or an appli-
7 cation for DACA, may not refer an applicant to U.S. Im-
8 migration and Customs Enforcement, U.S. Customs and
9 Border Protection, or any designee of either such entity.

10 (c) LIMITED EXCEPTION.—Notwithstanding sub-
11 sections (a) and (b), information provided in an applica-
12 tion for adjustment of status under this Act may be
13 shared with Federal security and law enforcement agen-
14 cies—

15 (1) for assistance in the consideration of an ap-
16 plication for adjustment of status under this Act;

17 (2) to identify or prevent fraudulent claims;

18 (3) for national security purposes; or

19 (4) for the investigation or prosecution of any
20 felony offense not related to immigration status.

21 (d) PENALTY.—Any person who knowingly uses, pub-
22 lishes, or permits information to be examined in violation
23 of this section shall be fined not more than \$10,000.

1 **SEC. 310. GRANT PROGRAM TO ASSIST ELIGIBLE APPLI-**
2 **CANTS.**

3 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall establish,
4 within U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, a pro-
5 gram to award grants, on a competitive basis, to eligible
6 nonprofit organizations that will use the funding to assist
7 eligible applicants under this Act by providing them with
8 the services described in subsection (b).

9 (b) USE OF FUNDS.—Grant funds awarded under
10 this section shall be used for the design and implementa-
11 tion of programs that provide—

12 (1) information to the public regarding the eli-
13 gibility and benefits of permanent resident status
14 under this Act (whether on a conditional basis, or
15 without the conditional basis as provided in section
16 104(c)(2)), particularly to individuals potentially eli-
17 gible for such status;

18 (2) assistance, within the scope of authorized
19 practice of immigration law, to individuals submit-
20 ting applications for adjustment of status under this
21 Act (whether on a conditional basis, or without the
22 conditional basis as provided in section 104(c)(2)),
23 including—

24 (A) screening prospective applicants to as-
25 sess their eligibility for such status;

1 (B) completing applications and petitions,
2 including providing assistance in obtaining the
3 requisite documents and supporting evidence;
4 and

5 (C) providing any other assistance that the
6 Secretary or grantee considers useful or nec-
7 essary to apply for adjustment of status under
8 this Act (whether on a conditional basis, or
9 without the conditional basis as provided in sec-
10 tion 104(c)(2)); and

11 (3) assistance, within the scope of authorized
12 practice of immigration law, and instruction, to indi-
13 viduals—

14 (A) on the rights and responsibilities of
15 United States citizenship;

16 (B) in civics and English as a second lan-
17 guage;

18 (C) in preparation for the General Edu-
19 cation Development test; and

20 (D) in applying for adjustment of status
21 and United States citizenship.

22 (c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

23 (1) AMOUNTS AUTHORIZED.—There are author-
24 ized to be appropriated such sums as may be nec-

1 essary for each of the fiscal years 2024 through
2 2034 to carry out this section.

3 (2) AVAILABILITY.—Any amounts appropriated
4 pursuant to paragraph (1) shall remain available
5 until expended.

6 **SEC. 311. PROVISIONS AFFECTING ELIGIBILITY FOR AD-**
7 **JUSTMENT OF STATUS.**

8 An alien's eligibility to be lawfully admitted for per-
9 manent residence under this Act (whether on a conditional
10 basis, or without the conditional basis as provided in sec-
11 tion 104(c)(2)) shall not preclude the alien from seeking
12 any status under any other provision of law for which the
13 alien may otherwise be eligible.

14 **SEC. 312. SUPPLEMENTARY SURCHARGE FOR APPOINTED**
15 **COUNSEL.**

16 (a) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in section 302
17 and in cases where the applicant is exempt from paying
18 a fee under section 303(c), in any case in which a fee is
19 charged pursuant to this Act, an additional surcharge of
20 \$25 shall be imposed and collected for the purpose of pro-
21 viding appointed counsel to applicants seeking judicial re-
22 view of the Secretary's decision to provisionally deny an
23 application under this Act.

24 (b) IMMIGRATION COUNSEL ACCOUNT.—There is es-
25 tablished in the general fund of the Treasury a separate

1 account which shall be known as the “Immigration Coun-
2 sel Account”. Fees collected under subsection (a) shall be
3 deposited into the Immigration Counsel Account and shall
4 remain available until expended for purposes of providing
5 appointed counsel as required under this Act.

6 (c) REPORT.—At the end of each 2-year period, be-
7 ginning with the establishment of this account, the Sec-
8 retary of Homeland Security shall submit a report to the
9 Congress concerning the status of the account, including
10 any balances therein, and recommend any adjustment in
11 the prescribed fee that may be required to ensure that the
12 receipts collected from the fee charged for the succeeding
13 two years equal, as closely as possible, the cost of pro-
14 viding appointed counsel as required under this Act.

15 **SEC. 313. ANNUAL REPORT ON PROVISIONAL DENIAL AU-**
16 **THORITY.**

17 Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment
18 of this Act, and annually thereafter, the Secretary of
19 Homeland Security shall submit to the Congress a report
20 detailing the number of applicants that receive—

- 21 (1) a provisional denial under this Act;
22 (2) a final denial under this Act without seek-
23 ing judicial review;
24 (3) a final denial under this Act after seeking
25 judicial review; and

- 1 (4) an approval under this Act after seeking ju-
- 2 dicial review.

