

117TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 6754

To prohibit the solicitation of reimbursement of any travel expenses incurred by the Department of State on behalf of any United States citizen or lawful permanent resident evacuated from Ukraine and repatriated to the United States, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 18, 2022

Mr. BARR introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

A BILL

To prohibit the solicitation of reimbursement of any travel expenses incurred by the Department of State on behalf of any United States citizen or lawful permanent resident evacuated from Ukraine and repatriated to the United States, 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 “Russians Engaged in
5 Threatening Ukraine Refuge Now Act” or the “RETURN
6 Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. PROHIBITION ON SOLICITATION OF REIMBURSE-**
2 **MENT.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding subsection
4 (b)(2)(A)(ii) of section 4 of the State Department Basic
5 Authorities Act of 1956 (22 U.S.C. 2671), during the pe-
6 riod of evacuation related to a Russian invasion of
7 Ukraine and withdrawal of United States Department of
8 State personnel from Ukraine—

9 (1) the Secretary of State shall waive any re-
10 payment of any travel expenses incurred by the De-
11 partment of State on behalf of any United States
12 citizen or lawful permanent resident evacuated from
13 Ukraine and repatriated to the United States;

14 (2) any promissory note or other obligation to
15 repay an emergency repatriation loan signed by a
16 United States citizen or a lawful permanent resident
17 of the United States to reimburse the Department of
18 State for travel expenses described in paragraph (1)
19 shall be null and void; and

20 (3) no Federal official or employee may solicit
21 or accept any amount from any individual who is a
22 citizen of the United States or a lawful permanent
23 resident of the United States, whether in the form
24 of a reimbursement or as any other condition of
25 using transportation provided by the United States,
26 to repatriate such individual to the United States.

1 (b) PROHIBITION OF DENIAL OF TRAVEL.—No trav-
2 eler on any Department of State-sponsored air travel pur-
3 suant to subsection (a) shall be denied a flight if such
4 traveler is unable to abide by the requirements the Amend-
5 ed Order: Requirement for Proof of Negative COVID–19
6 Test Result or Recovery from COVID–19 for All Airline
7 Passengers Arriving into the United States, published on
8 December 2, 2021.

9 (c) TERMINATION.—This Act shall terminate on the
10 date that is six months after the date of the enactment
11 of this Act.

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