

117TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 7212

To amend the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008 with respect to the release of unaccompanied alien children, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 24, 2022

Mr. KELLER (for himself, Mr. CAWTHORN, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Ms. MACE, and Mr. GOHMERT) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To amend the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008 with respect to the release of unaccompanied alien children, 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 “Safe Sponsor Act of
5 2022”.

6 **SEC. 2. RELEASE FROM CUSTODY.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 235(c)(3) of the William
8 Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthoriza-

1 tion Act of 2008 (8 U.S.C. 1232(c)(3)) is amended by
2 adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

3 “(D) CITIZENSHIP OR LAWFUL PERMA-
4 NENT RESIDENCY STATUS.—

5 “(i) IN GENERAL.—An unaccom-
6 panied alien child may not be placed with
7 a proposed custodian unless the Secretary
8 of Health and Human Services, in con-
9 sultation with the Secretary of Homeland
10 Security, determines that such custodian is
11 a citizen of the United States or an alien
12 lawfully admitted for permanent residence.

13 “(ii) PROOF OF STATUS.—For the
14 purpose of clause (i), a proposed custodian
15 shall demonstrate that they are a United
16 States citizen or alien lawfully admitted for
17 permanent residency by producing one of
18 the following documents:

19 “(I) A valid unexpired United
20 States passport or United States
21 passport card.

22 “(II) A birth certificate proving
23 birth in the United States.

24 “(III) A certificate of naturaliza-
25 tion.

1 “(IV) A certificate of citizenship.

2 “(V) A report designated as a
3 ‘Report of Birth Abroad of a Citizen
4 of the United States’, issued by a con-
5 sular officer to document a citizen
6 born abroad.

7 “(VI) An alien registration card
8 or permanent resident card.”.

9 (b) REQUIREMENT OF BOND FOR PLACEMENT.—
10 Section 235(c) of the William Wilberforce Trafficking Vic-
11 tims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008 (8 U.S.C.
12 1232(c)) is amended by adding at the end the following
13 new paragraph:

14 “(7) BOND REQUIRED FOR PLACEMENT.—In
15 addition to the requirements of this section and be-
16 fore placing an unaccompanied alien child with a
17 proposed custodian, the Secretary of Health and
18 Human Services shall require a bond of at least
19 \$1,500, to be paid by the proposed custodian, in as-
20 surance that the unaccompanied alien child will at-
21 tend, as necessary, each legal proceeding with re-
22 spect to their immigration status.”.

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