



# IN THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES

OCTOBER 21st, 2020

Mr. ROMERIO (for himself, Mr. Koay) introduced the following bill;

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*To amend United States Asylum Law to better fit the needs of International migrants whose lives are threatened.*

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in  
Congress assembled;

## **SEC. 1. SHORT TITLE.**

This act may be cited as the “Restore Asylum Act.”

## **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

Congress finds that—

- (1) Asylum is not being used as it should be, i.e. to protect those whose lives are in danger, and who the United States is able to protect.
- (2) We must protect those who exercise their basic rights and are endangered because of this, whether by foreign Governments, drug cartels, or militant organizations.
- (3) We must use the Asylum process to protect free speech, the right to peacefully assemble, the Freedom of the Press, and the Freedom of Religion.

### **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

In this act—

- (1) The term “Free Speech” or “Freedom of Speech” refers to the natural right of a human being to speak freely while not under oath, and their right to criticize Governments and institutions, without physical or legal retribution.
- (2) By extension, the terms “Freedom of Press,” “Freedom of Assembly,” and “Freedom of Religion” are all extensions of the right to speak and think freely, pursuant to the logical environments in which said freedom would be used, such as journalism, assembly, or worship.

### **SEC. 4. AMENDING ASYLUM LAW**

The Refugee Act of 1980 is amended as follows;

- (1) Title II, Section 201, Subsection 2, will read as follows;
  - (a) "(42) The term 'refugee' means (A) any person who is outside any country of such person^ nationality or, in the case of a person having no nationality, is outside any country in which such person last habitually resided, and who is unable or unwilling to return to, and is unable or unwilling to avail himself or herself of the protection of, that country because of persecution or violence, or a well-founded fear of persecution or violence on account of race, religion, nationality, membership in a particular social group, or political opinion, or the exercise of Free Speech, Freedom of Press, or Freedom of Assembly, or (B) in such special circumstances as the President after appropriate consultation (as defined in section 207(e) of this Act) may specify, any person who is within the country of such person's nationality or, in the case of a person having no nationality, within the country in which such person is habitually residing, and who is persecuted or physically attacked or who has a well-founded fear of persecution or violence on account of race, religion, nationality, membership in a particular social group, or political opinion, or the exercise of Free Speech, Freedom of Press, or Freedom of Assembly. The term 'refugee' does not include any person who ordered, incited, assisted, or otherwise participated in the persecution or physical harm of any person on account of race, religion, nationality, membership in a particular social

group, or political opinion, or the exercise of Free Speech, Freedom of Press, or Freedom of Assembly,".

#### **SEC. 5. ENACTMENT**

The provisions in this Act will go into effect immediately upon being signed into law.