

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. _____

To require verification of the personal and biometric information of all individuals evacuated from Afghanistan, to require in-person interviews of such individuals, and to prohibit Afghan evacuees who do not provide such information or submit to such interviews from receiving Federal assistance, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. HAWLEY introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To require verification of the personal and biometric information of all individuals evacuated from Afghanistan, to require in-person interviews of such individuals, and to prohibit Afghan evacuees who do not provide such information or submit to such interviews from receiving Federal assistance, 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 “Afghanistan Vetting
5 and Accountability Act of 2025”.

1 **SEC. 2. VERIFICATION AND VETTING REQUIREMENTS WITH**
2 **RESPECT TO INDIVIDUALS EVACUATED**
3 **FROM AFGHANISTAN.**

4 (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

5 (1) FEDERAL MEANS-TESTED PUBLIC BEN-
6 EFIT.—The term “Federal means-tested public ben-
7 efit” means a Federal means-tested public benefit
8 within the meaning of section 403 of the Personal
9 Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation
10 Act of 1996 (8 U.S.C. 1613).

11 (2) INDIVIDUAL EVACUATED FROM AFGHANI-
12 STAN.—The term “individual evacuated from Af-
13 ghanistan”—

14 (A) means any individual, other than a
15 United States citizen or a member of the
16 United States Armed Forces, conveyed out of
17 Afghanistan into the United States in coordina-
18 tion with the Government of the United States
19 during the period beginning on January 20,
20 2021, and ending on January 20, 2022; and

21 (B) includes each individual, other than a
22 United States citizen or a member of the
23 United States Armed Forces, evacuated from
24 Afghanistan as part of Operation Allies Wel-
25 come.

1 (3) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
2 the Secretary of Homeland Security.

3 (4) UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION.—The
4 term “unemployment compensation” has the mean-
5 ing given the term in section 85(b) of the Internal
6 Revenue Code of 1986.

7 (b) VERIFICATION AND VETTING REQUIREMENTS.—

8 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall verify
9 the personal and biometric information and conduct
10 in-person vetting of each individual evacuated from
11 Afghanistan.

12 (2) VETTING DATABASE.—The Secretary shall
13 develop and maintain a database that contains, for
14 each individual evacuated from Afghanistan, the fol-
15 lowing:

16 (A) Personal information, including name
17 and date of birth.

18 (B) Biometric information.

19 (C) Any criminal record since the date on
20 which the individual entered the United States.

21 (D) Any application for, or receipt of, un-
22 employment compensation or a Federal means-
23 tested public benefit.

1 (E) The vetting status of the individual,
2 including whether the individual has undergone
3 in-person vetting.

4 (c) QUARTERLY REPORT.—

5 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not less frequently than
6 quarterly until the date on which the Secretary sub-
7 mits the certification under subsection (d), the Sec-
8 retary shall submit to Congress a report detailing
9 the compliance of the Secretary with subsection (b).

10 (2) ELEMENTS.—Each report required by para-
11 graph (1) shall include the following:

12 (A) A list of all individuals evacuated from
13 Afghanistan.

14 (B) With respect to each such individual—

15 (i) vetting status, including whether
16 the individual has undergone in-person vet-
17 ting;

18 (ii) an assessment as to whether the
19 individual has received unemployment com-
20 pensation or a Federal means-tested ben-
21 efit;

22 (iii) a description of any arrest or
23 criminal record for conduct that occurred
24 in Afghanistan, if available; and

1 (iv) a description of any arrest or
2 criminal record for conduct that occurred
3 in the United States.

4 (C) The estimated number of days remain-
5 ing until the Secretary completes the
6 verification and vetting of each individual evac-
7 uated from Afghanistan as required by sub-
8 section (b)(1).

9 (d) CERTIFICATION.—Not later than 30 days after
10 the date on which the Secretary completes the verification
11 and vetting required by subsection (b)(1), the Secretary
12 shall submit to Congress a certification that such
13 verification and vetting has been completed.

14 (e) GAO AUDITS AND REPORTS.—

15 (1) AUDITS.—The Comptroller General of the
16 United States shall conduct an audit and investiga-
17 tion with respect to the compliance of the Secretary
18 with this Act—

19 (A) not later than 2 years after the date
20 of the enactment of this Act; and

21 (B) not later than 1 year after the date on
22 which the Secretary makes the certification
23 under subsection (d).

24 (2) REPORTS.—Not later than 30 days after
25 the completion of each audit and investigation re-

1 quired by paragraph (1), the Comptroller General
2 shall submit to Congress a report on the results of
3 the audit and investigation.

4 (f) RESTRICTION ON FEDERAL ASSISTANCE.—An in-
5 dividual evacuated from Afghanistan who has not provided
6 personal information and biometric information to the
7 Secretary, and undergone in-person vetting, shall not be
8 eligible to receive unemployment compensation or any
9 Federal means-tested public benefit.