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(Original Signature of Member)

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R.

To require that supplemental certifications and background investigations be completed prior to the admission of certain aliens as refugees, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. HILL introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To require that supplemental certifications and background investigations be completed prior to the admission of certain aliens as refugees, 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 “Security Verification
5 for Refugees Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. REVIEW OF REFUGEES TO IDENTIFY SECURITY**
2 **THREATS TO THE UNITED STATES.**

3 (a) **BACKGROUND INVESTIGATION.**—In addition to
4 the screening conducted by the Secretary of Homeland Se-
5 curity, the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation
6 shall take all actions necessary to ensure that each covered
7 alien receives a thorough background investigation prior
8 to admission as a refugee. A covered alien may not be ad-
9 mitted as a refugee until the Director of the Federal Bu-
10 reau of Investigation certifies to the Secretary of Home-
11 land Security and the Director of National Intelligence
12 that each covered alien has received a background inves-
13 tigation that is sufficient to determine whether the covered
14 alien is a threat to the security of the United States.

15 (b) **CERTIFICATION BY UNANIMOUS CONCUR-**
16 **RENCE.**—A covered alien may only be admitted to the
17 United States after the Secretary of Homeland Security,
18 with the unanimous concurrence of the Director of the
19 Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Director of Na-
20 tional Intelligence, certifies to the appropriate Congres-
21 sional Committees that the covered alien is not a threat
22 to the security of the United States.

23 (c) **INSPECTOR GENERAL REVIEW OF CERTIFI-**
24 **CATIONS.**—The Inspector General of the Department of
25 Homeland Security shall conduct a risk-based review of
26 all certifications made under subsection (b) each year and

1 shall provide an annual report detailing the findings to
2 the appropriate Congressional Committees.

3 (d) MONTHLY REPORT.—The Secretary of Homeland
4 Security shall submit to the appropriate Congressional
5 Committees a monthly report on the total number of appli-
6 cations for admission with regard to which a certification
7 under subsection (b) was made and the number of covered
8 aliens with regard to whom such a certification was not
9 made for the month preceding the date of the report. The
10 report shall include, for each covered alien with regard to
11 whom a certification was not made, the concurrence or
12 nonconcurrence of each person whose concurrence was re-
13 quired by subsection (b).

14 (e) DEFINITIONS.—In this Act:

15 (1) COVERED ALIEN.—The term “covered
16 alien” means any alien applying for admission to the
17 United States as a refugee who—

18 (A) is a national or resident of Iraq, Syria,
19 or a country designated as a high-risk country
20 by the Secretary of State under section 3;

21 (B) has no nationality and whose last ha-
22 bitual residence was in Iraq, Syria, or a country
23 designated as a high-risk country by the Sec-
24 retary of State under section 3; or

1 (C) has been present in Iraq or Syria at
2 any time on or after March 1, 2011.

3 (2) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COM-
4 MITTEE.—The term “appropriate Congressional
5 Committees” means—

6 (A) the Committee on Armed Services of
7 the Senate;

8 (B) the Select Committee on Intelligence
9 of the Senate;

10 (C) the Committee on the Judiciary of the
11 Senate;

12 (D) the Committee on Homeland Security
13 and Governmental Affairs of the Senate;

14 (E) the Committee on Foreign Relations of
15 the Senate;

16 (F) the Committee on Appropriations of
17 the Senate;

18 (G) the Committee on Armed Services of
19 the House of Representatives;

20 (H) the Permanent Select Committee on
21 Intelligence of the House of Representatives;

22 (I) the Committee on the Judiciary of the
23 House of Representatives;

24 (J) the Committee on Homeland Security
25 of the House of Representatives;

1 (K) the Committee on Appropriations of
2 the House of Representatives; and

3 (L) the Committee on Foreign Affairs of
4 the House of Representatives.

5 **SEC. 3. REPORT ON RISK LEVELS OF COUNTRIES.**

6 Not later than 60 days after the date of the enact-
7 ment of this Act, and annually thereafter, the Secretary
8 of State, in consultation with the Secretary of Homeland
9 Security, the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investiga-
10 tion, and the Director of National Intelligence, shall sub-
11 mit to the appropriate Congressional Committees (as such
12 term is defined in section 2(e)) a report, which shall be
13 submitted in unclassified form to the maximum extent
14 practicable, but may include a classified annex, and which
15 includes the following:

16 (1) A list of each country, a national or resi-
17 dent of which submitted an application for admis-
18 sion to the United States as a refugee under section
19 207 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8
20 U.S.C. 1157) during the year preceding the report.

21 (2) For each country listed under paragraph
22 (1), an evaluation of the threat to the security of the
23 United States posed by aliens who are nationals or
24 residents of each such country, and a designation of

1 each such country as high-risk, medium-risk, or low-
2 risk.

3 (3) For each country listed under paragraph
4 (1), the number of applications for admission as a
5 refugee to the United States during the year pre-
6 ceding the report.

7 (4) For each country listed under paragraph
8 (1), the number of aliens who were admitted to the
9 United States as refugees during the year preceding
10 the report.

11 (5) Beginning with the second report submitted
12 under this section, in the case of a country for which
13 the designation under paragraph (2) changed from
14 the designation of that country in the preceding
15 year's report, an explanation of the reason for the
16 change.

17 (6) To the extent practicable, and without jeop-
18 ardizing intelligence sources or methods, a descrip-
19 tion of the following:

20 (A) Any presence of terrorism, hostile ac-
21 tions against the United States or its allies,
22 gross violations of human rights, human traf-
23 ficking, drug trafficking, religious persecution,
24 or other violations of international law.

1 (B) Any presence of al Qaeda, al Qaeda af-
2 filiates, Islamic State, or other terrorist groups.

3 (C) Any presence of transnational criminal
4 organizations.