

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2923

To amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to include aliens passing in transit through the United States to board a vessel on which the alien will perform ship-to-ship liquid cargo transfer operations within a class of nonimmigrant aliens, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 30, 2021

Ms. GARCIA of Texas (for herself, Mr. CRENSHAW, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas, Mr. CLOUD, and Mr. PALAZZO) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to include aliens passing in transit through the United States to board a vessel on which the alien will perform ship-to-ship liquid cargo transfer operations within a class of nonimmigrant aliens, 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 “Energy Security and
5 Lightering Independence Act of 2021”.

1 **SEC. 2. DEFINITION OF NONIMMIGRANT IN TRANSIT.**

2 Subparagraph (C) of section 101(a)(15) of the Immi-
3 gration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(15)) is
4 amended to read as follows:

5 “(C)(i) an alien in immediate and contin-
6 uous transit through the United States not to
7 exceed 29 days;

8 “(ii) an alien who qualifies as a person en-
9 titled to pass in transit to and from the United
10 Nations Headquarters District and foreign
11 countries, under the provisions of paragraphs
12 (3), (4), and (5) of section 11 of the Head-
13 quarters Agreement with the United Nations
14 (61 Stat. 758); or

15 “(iii) an alien passing in transit through
16 the United States to board a vessel on which
17 the alien will perform ship-to-ship liquid cargo
18 transfer operations to or from another vessel
19 engaged in foreign trade for a period not to ex-
20 ceed 180 days.”.

21 **SEC. 3. CONDITIONAL PERMITS TO LAND TEMPORARILY.**

22 Section 252(a) of the Immigration and Nationality
23 Act (8 U.S.C. 1282(a)) is amended—

24 (1) in paragraph (1), by striking “or” at the
25 end;

1 (2) in paragraph (2), by striking the period at
2 the end and inserting “; or”; and

3 (3) by adding at the end the following:

4 “(3) 180 days, if the immigration officer is sat-
5 isfied that the crewman intends to depart, within the
6 period for which the crewman is permitted to land,
7 on either the same vessel or on a vessel other than
8 the vessel on which the crewman arrived and that
9 the crewman will perform ship-to-ship liquid cargo
10 transfer operations to or from any other vessel en-
11 gaged in foreign trade during such period.”.

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