

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 4303

To designate the Commonwealth of The Bahamas under section 244 of the Immigration and Nationality Act to permit nationals of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas to be eligible for temporary protected status under such section, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 12, 2019

Ms. WILSON of Florida (for herself, Ms. DELAURO, Ms. BONAMICI, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Mr. SABLAN, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. TONKO, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. COX of California, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. LAWSON of Florida, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. DESAULNIER, Mr. SARBANES, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. PAYNE, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. RUSH, Mr. RICHMOND, Mrs. DEMINGS, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Mrs. HAYES, Mr. CLAY, Mr. LEVIN of Michigan, Mr. CICILLINE, Ms. MOORE, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. COURTNEY, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. HASTINGS, Mr. SOTO, Mr. CRIST, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Ms. FRANKEL, Ms. FUDGE, Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. BROWN of Maryland, Ms. BASS, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. EVANS, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Ms. ADAMS, Mr. JEFFRIES, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. MORELLE, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. LEWIS, Mr. CUMMINGS, Ms. LOFGREN, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. GARAMENDI, and Mr. SUOZZI) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on the Budget, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To designate the Commonwealth of The Bahamas under section 244 of the Immigration and Nationality Act to

permit nationals of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas to be eligible for temporary protected status under such section, 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 “Bahamas TPS Act
 5 of 2019”.

6 **SEC. 2. DESIGNATION FOR PURPOSES OF GRANTING TEM-**
 7 **PORARY PROTECTED STATUS.**

8 (a) DESIGNATION.—

9 (1) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of section 244
 10 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C.
 11 1254a), the Commonwealth of The Bahamas shall
 12 be treated as if it had been designated under sub-
 13 section (b) of that section, subject to the provisions
 14 of this section.

15 (2) PERIOD OF DESIGNATION.—The initial pe-
 16 riod of the designation referred to in paragraph (1)
 17 shall be for the 18-month period beginning on the
 18 date of the enactment of this Act.

19 (b) ALIENS ELIGIBLE.—As a result of the designa-
 20 tion made under subsection (a), an alien who is a national
 21 of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas is deemed to sat-
 22 isfy the requirements under paragraph (1) of section
 23 244(c) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C.

1 1254a(c)), subject to paragraph (3) of such section, if the
2 alien—

3 (1) has been continuously physically present in
4 the United States since the date of the enactment of
5 this Act;

6 (2) is admissible as an immigrant, except as
7 otherwise provided in paragraph (2)(A) of such sec-
8 tion, and is not ineligible for temporary protected
9 status under paragraph (2)(B) of such section; and

10 (3) registers for temporary protected status in
11 a manner established by the Secretary of Homeland
12 Security.

13 (c) CONSENT TO TRAVEL ABROAD.—

14 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Homeland
15 Security shall give prior consent to travel abroad, in
16 accordance with section 244(f)(3) of the Immigra-
17 tion and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1254a(f)(3)), to
18 an alien who is granted temporary protected status
19 pursuant to the designation made under subsection
20 (a) if the alien establishes to the satisfaction of the
21 Secretary of Homeland Security that emergency and
22 extenuating circumstances beyond the control of the
23 alien require the alien to depart for a brief, tem-
24 porary trip abroad.

1 (2) TREATMENT UPON RETURN.—An alien re-
2 turning to the United States in accordance with an
3 authorization described in paragraph (1) shall be
4 treated as any other returning alien provided tem-
5 porary protected status under section 244 of the Im-
6 migration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1254a).

7 **SEC. 3. DETERMINATION OF BUDGETARY EFFECTS.**

8 The budgetary effects of this Act, for the purpose of
9 complying with the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010,
10 shall be determined by reference to the latest statement
11 titled “Budgetary Effects of PAYGO Legislation” for this
12 Act, submitted for printing in the Congressional Record
13 by the Chairman of the House Budget Committee, pro-
14 vided that such statement has been submitted prior to the
15 vote on passage.

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