

115TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 6183

To require the Secretary of Homeland Security to reunite unaccompanied alien children with the parents or legal guardians with whom they entered the United States, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 21, 2018

Mr. HUIZENGA introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To require the Secretary of Homeland Security to reunite unaccompanied alien children with the parents or legal guardians with whom they entered the United States, 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 “Family Reunification
5 Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. IMMIGRANT FAMILY REUNIFICATION.**

7 The Secretary of Homeland Security, in conjunction
8 with the Attorney General and the Secretary of Health

1 and Human Services, shall use all necessary means to en-
2 sure that each unaccompanied alien child (as defined in
3 section 462(g)(2) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002
4 (6 U.S.C. 279(g)(2))) who was removed from the care and
5 custody of a parent or legal guardian by a Federal official
6 or employee at or near a port of entry, or within 100 miles
7 of a border of the United States, is reunited with the par-
8 ent or legal guardian at the earliest possible date, unless
9 one of the following has occurred:

10 (1) A State court, authorized under State law,
11 terminates the rights of a parent or legal guardian,
12 determines that it is in the best interests of the child
13 to be removed from his or her parent or legal guard-
14 ian, in accordance with the Adoption and Safe Fam-
15 ilies Act of 1997 (Public Law 105–89), or makes
16 any similar determination that is legally authorized
17 under State law.

18 (2) An official from a State or county child wel-
19 fare agency with expertise in child trauma and devel-
20 opment makes a best interests determination that it
21 is in the best interests of the child to be removed
22 from his or her parent or legal guardian because the
23 child is in danger of abuse or neglect at the hands
24 of the parent or legal guardian, or is a danger to
25 herself or others.

1 (3) The Secretary of Homeland Security re-
2 quires continued separation based on a finding
3 that—

4 (A) the child is a victim of trafficking or
5 is at significant risk of becoming a victim of
6 trafficking;

7 (B) there is a strong likelihood that the
8 adult is not the parent or legal guardian of the
9 child; or

10 (C) the child is in danger of abuse or ne-
11 glect at the hands of the parent or legal guard-
12 ian, or is a danger to themselves or others.

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