

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. _____

To provide for adjustment of status for eligible nationals of Ukraine, and
for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. COONS, and Mr. BLUMENTHAL) introduced
the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee
on _____

A BILL

To provide for adjustment of status for eligible nationals
of Ukraine, 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 “Ukrainian Adjustment
5 Act of 2026”.

6 **SEC. 2. ADJUSTMENT OF STATUS FOR ELIGIBLE NATION-**
7 **ALS OF UKRAINE.**

8 (a) DEFINITION OF ELIGIBLE NATIONAL OF
9 UKRAINE.—In this section, the term “eligible national of

1 Ukraine” means a citizen or national of Ukraine (or a per-
2 son who last habitually resided in Ukraine) who—

3 (1) completed security and law enforcement
4 background checks to the satisfaction of the Sec-
5 retary of Homeland Security (referred to in this sec-
6 tion as the “Secretary”) and was—

7 (A) inspected and admitted to the United
8 States before the date of the enactment of this
9 Act;

10 (B) paroled into the United States after
11 February 20, 2014; or

12 (C) paroled into the United States for the
13 purpose of accompanying or following to join
14 as—

15 (i) the spouse or child (as defined in
16 section 101(b)(1) of the Immigration and
17 Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(b)(1))) of
18 an individual described in subparagraph
19 (A) or (B); or

20 (ii) the parent, legal guardian, or pri-
21 mary caregiver of an individual described
22 in subparagraph (A) or (B) who is deter-
23 mined to be an unaccompanied child under
24 section 462(g)(2) of the Homeland Secu-
25 rity Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 279(g)(2)) or

1 section 412(d)(2)(B) of the Immigration
2 and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C.
3 1522(d)(2)(B)); and

4 (2) is physically present in the United States.

5 (b) STREAMLINED ADJUSTMENT OF STATUS.—

6 (1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other
7 provision of law, the Secretary shall adjust the sta-
8 tus of an eligible national of Ukraine to the status
9 of an alien lawfully admitted for permanent resi-
10 dence if—

11 (A) the eligible national of Ukraine—

12 (i) submits an application for adjust-
13 ment of status in accordance with proce-
14 dures established by the Secretary;

15 (ii) subject to subsection (c), is other-
16 wise admissible to the United States as an
17 immigrant, except that the grounds of in-
18 admissibility under paragraphs (4), (5),
19 and (7)(A) of section 212(a) the Immigra-
20 tion and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C.
21 1182(a)) shall not apply; and

22 (iii) has complied with the vetting re-
23 quirements under subsection (d) to the sat-
24 isfaction of the Secretary; and

1 (B) the Secretary determines, based on
2 specific and individualized facts, that the ad-
3 justment of status of the eligible national of
4 Ukraine is not contrary to the national welfare,
5 public safety, or national security of the United
6 States.

7 (2) APPLICABILITY OF REFUGEE ADMISSIBILITY
8 REQUIREMENTS.—The provisions of section 209(c)
9 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C.
10 1159(c)) (relating to the admissibility of refugees
11 seeking adjustment of status) shall apply to appli-
12 cants for adjustment of status under this section.

13 (c) WAIVER OF INADMISSIBILITY.—

14 (1) IN GENERAL.—With respect to an applicant
15 for adjustment of status under this section, subject
16 to paragraph (2), the Secretary may waive any ap-
17 plicable ground of inadmissibility under section
18 212(a) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8
19 U.S.C. 1182(a)) (other than paragraph 2(C) or (3)
20 of that section) for humanitarian purposes, to en-
21 sure family unity, or if a waiver is otherwise in the
22 public interest.

23 (2) LIMITATIONS.—The Secretary may not
24 waive under this subsection any applicable ground of
25 inadmissibility under section 212(a)(2) of the Immi-

1 gration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1182(a)(2))
2 that arises due to criminal conduct that was com-
3 mitted—

4 (A) on or after February 20, 2014;

5 (B) within the United States; and

6 (C) by an applicant for adjustment of sta-
7 tus under this section.

8 (3) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this
9 subsection may be construed to limit any other waiv-
10 er authority of the Secretary under any other law.

11 (d) INTERVIEW AND VETTING REQUIREMENTS.—

12 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish
13 vetting requirements for applicants seeking adjust-
14 ment of status under this section that are equivalent
15 to the vetting requirements for refugees admitted to
16 the United States through the United States Ref-
17 ugee Admissions Program.

18 (2) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this
19 subsection may be construed to limit the authority
20 of the Secretary to maintain records under any other
21 law.

22 (e) PROTECTION FOR BATTERED SPOUSES.—

23 (1) IN GENERAL.—An alien whose marriage to
24 an eligible national of Ukraine described in subpara-
25 graph (A) or (B) of subsection (a)(1) has been ter-

minated shall be eligible for adjustment of status under this section as an alien described in subsection (a)(1)(C) for not more than 2 years after the date on which such marriage is terminated if there is a demonstrated connection between the termination of the marriage and battering or extreme cruelty perpetrated by the principal applicant.

(2) APPLICABILITY OF OTHER LAW.—In reviewing an application for adjustment of status under this section with respect to spouses and children who have been battered or subjected to extreme cruelty, the Secretary shall apply section 204(a)(1)(J) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1154(a)(1)(J)) and section 384 of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 (8 U.S.C. 1367).

(f) DATE OF APPROVAL.—Upon the approval of an application for adjustment of status under this section, the Secretary shall create a record of the alien's admission as a lawful permanent resident as of the date on which the alien was first inspected and admitted or paroled into the United States.

(g) IMPLEMENTATION.—

(1) INTERIM GUIDANCE.—

1 (A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180
2 days after the date of the enactment of this
3 Act, the Secretary shall issue guidance imple-
4 menting this section.

5 (B) PUBLICATION.—Notwithstanding sec-
6 tion 553 of title 5, United States Code, such
7 guidance—

8 (i) may be published on the internet
9 website of the Department of Homeland
10 Security; and

11 (ii) shall be effective on an interim
12 basis immediately upon such publication
13 but may be subject to change and revision
14 after notice and an opportunity for public
15 comment.

16 (2) FINAL GUIDANCE.—Not later than 1 year
17 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Sec-
18 retary shall finalize the guidance implementing this
19 section.

20 (h) ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW.—The Secretary shall
21 provide applicants for adjustment of status under this sec-
22 tion with the same right to, and procedures for, adminis-
23 trative review as are provided to applicants for adjustment
24 of status under section 245 of the Immigration and Na-
25 tionality Act (8 U.S.C. 1255).

1 (i) FEES.—

2 (1) PROHIBITION ON IMPOSITION OF FEES
3 OTHER THAN PROCESSING FEES.—The Secretary
4 shall not charge, in connection with an application
5 for adjustment of status or employment authoriza-
6 tion under this section, or with the issuance of a
7 permanent resident card or an employment author-
8 ization document to an eligible national of Ukraine,
9 any fee that is not specifically associated with the
10 administrative cost of processing such application or
11 issuing such card or document.

12 (2) WAIVER AVAILABLE.—The Secretary shall
13 permit eligible nationals of Ukraine to apply for a
14 waiver of any fees associated with filing an applica-
15 tion for adjustment of status or employment author-
16 ization under this section.

17 (j) PENDING APPLICATIONS.—During the period be-
18 ginning on the date on which an alien files a bona fide
19 application for adjustment of status under this section and
20 ending on the date on which the Secretary makes a final
21 administrative decision regarding such application, any
22 alien and any dependent included in such application who
23 remains in compliance with all application requirements
24 may not be—

1 (1) removed from the United States unless the
2 Secretary makes a prima facie determination that
3 the alien is, or has become, ineligible for adjustment
4 of status under this section;

5 (2) considered unlawfully present under section
6 212(a)(9)(B) of the Immigration and Nationality
7 Act (8 U.S.C. 1182(a)(9)(B)); or

8 (3) considered an unauthorized alien (as de-
9 fined in section 274A(h)(3) of the Immigration and
10 Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1324a(h)(3))).

11 (k) VAWA SELF PETITIONERS.—Section 101(a)(51)
12 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C.
13 1101(a)(51)) is amended—

14 (1) in subparagraph (F), by striking “or”;

15 (2) in subparagraph (G), by striking the period
16 at the end and inserting “; or”; and

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

18 “(H) section 2(a) of the Ukrainian Adjust-
19 ment Act of 2026.”.

20 (l) EXEMPTION FROM NUMERICAL LIMITATIONS.—
21 Aliens granted adjustment of status under this section
22 shall not be subject to the numerical limitations under sec-
23 tions 201, 202, and 203 of the Immigration and Nation-
24 ality Act (8 U.S.C. 1151, 1152, and 1153).

1 (m) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this sec-
2 tion may be construed to preclude an eligible national of
3 Ukraine from applying for or receiving any immigration
4 benefit to which the eligible national of Ukraine is other-
5 wise entitled.