

105TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 666

To amend the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 relating to welfare and public benefits for aliens.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 11, 1997

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN (for herself and Mr. DIAZ-BALART) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Agriculture, 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 amend the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 relating to welfare and public benefits for aliens.

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. AMENDMENTS TO THE PERSONAL RESPON-**
4 **SIBILITY AND WORK OPPORTUNITY REC-**
5 **ONCILIATION ACT OF 1996 RELATING TO WEL-**
6 **FARE AND PUBLIC BENEFITS FOR ALIENS.**

7 (a) EXCEPTION TO LIMITED ELIGIBILITY FOR SSI
8 AND FOOD STAMPS FOR CERTAIN PERMANENT RESIDENT

1 ALIENS WHO ARE UNABLE BECAUSE OF PHYSICAL OR
2 DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITY OR MENTAL IMPAIRMENT
3 TO NATURALIZE.—Section 402(a)(2) of the Personal Re-
4 sponsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of
5 1996 (8 U.S.C. 1612(a)(2)) is amended by adding after
6 subparagraph (D) the following new subparagraph:

7 “(E) CERTAIN DISABLED AND IMPAIRED
8 ALIENS OTHERWISE ELIGIBLE FOR NATU-
9 RALIZATION.—Paragraph (1) shall not apply to
10 an alien who—

11 “(i) is lawfully admitted to the United
12 States for permanent residence under the
13 Immigration and Nationality Act; and

14 “(ii) meets the residence requirements
15 for naturalization under section 316 of the
16 Immigration and Nationality Act, but can-
17 not fulfill other requirements of the Immi-
18 gration and Nationality Act for naturaliza-
19 tion (including requirements under sections
20 312 and 337 of such Act) because the
21 alien is unable due to physical or devel-
22 opmental disability or mental impairment
23 to comply with such requirements.”.

24 (b) EXCEPTION TO LIMITED ELIGIBILITY FOR SSI
25 AND FOOD STAMPS FOR CERTAIN PERMANENT RESIDENT

1 ALIENS WHO ARE APPLICANTS FOR NATURALIZATION.—
2 Section 402(a)(2) of the Personal Responsibility and
3 Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 (8 U.S.C.
4 1612(a)(2)) is amended by adding after subparagraph (E)
5 (as added by subsection (a)) the following new subpara-
6 graph:

7 “(F) PERMANENT RESIDENT ALIENS WHO
8 ARE APPLICANTS FOR NATURALIZATION.—
9 Paragraph (1) shall not apply to an alien
10 who—

11 “(i) is lawfully admitted to the United
12 States for permanent residence under the
13 Immigration and Nationality Act;

14 “(ii) meets the residence requirements
15 for naturalization under section 316 of the
16 Immigration and Nationality Act;

17 “(iii) is not ineligible for naturaliza-
18 tion under the Immigration and National-
19 ity Act; and

20 “(iv) has an application pending for
21 naturalization under the Immigration and
22 Nationality Act which has not been de-
23 nied.”.

24 (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
25 subsections (a) and (b) shall be effective as if included

1 in the enactment of title IV of the Personal Responsibility
2 and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996.

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