

106TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1250

To amend the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 to clarify and improve the requirements for the development of an automated entry-exit control system, to enhance land border control and enforcement, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 24, 1999

Mr. LAFALCE (for himself, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. METCALF, Mr. BALDACCI, Mr. HOUGHTON, Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. PICKETT, Mr. ENGLISH, Ms. LEE, Mr. PASTOR, Mr. RODRIGUEZ, Mr. DAVIS of Florida, Mr. STUPAK, Mr. HOLDEN, and Mrs. MINK of Hawaii) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, 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 Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 to clarify and improve the requirements for the development of an automated entry-exit control system, to enhance land border control and enforcement, 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Border Improvement
3 and Immigration Act of 1999”.

4 **SEC. 2. AMENDMENT OF THE ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION RE-**
5 **FORM AND IMMIGRANT RESPONSIBILITY ACT**
6 **OF 1996.**

7 Section 110(a) of the Illegal Immigration Reform and
8 Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 (8 U.S.C. 1221
9 note) is amended to read as follows:

10 “(a) SYSTEM.—

11 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (3),
12 not later than October 15, 1998, the Attorney Gen-
13 eral shall develop an automated entry and exit con-
14 trol system at air ports-of-entry that will—

15 “(A) collect a record of departure for every
16 alien departing the United States and match
17 the record of departure with the record of the
18 alien’s arrival in the United States; and

19 “(B) enable the Attorney General to iden-
20 tify, through on-line searching procedures, law-
21 fully admitted nonimmigrants who remain in
22 the United States beyond the period authorized
23 by the Attorney General.

24 “(2) IMPLEMENTATION.—The Attorney General
25 shall fully implement the system developed under
26 paragraph (1) at all air ports-of-entry into the

1 United States not later than October 1, 2001. The
2 Attorney General may not implement the system at
3 any land border or seaport.

4 “(3) EXCEPTION.—The system under para-
5 graphs (1) and (2) shall not collect a record of ar-
6 rival or departure for any alien for whom the docu-
7 mentary requirements in section 212(a)(7)(B) of the
8 Immigration and Nationality Act have been waived
9 by the Attorney General and the Secretary of State
10 under section 212(d)(4)(B) of the Immigration and
11 Nationality Act.”.

12 **SEC. 3. REPORT ON AUTOMATED ENTRY-EXIT CONTROL**
13 **SYSTEM.**

14 (a) REQUIREMENT.—Not later than 1 year after the
15 date of enactment of this Act, the Attorney General shall
16 submit a report to the Committees on the Judiciary of
17 the Senate and the House of Representatives on the feasi-
18 bility of developing and implementing an automated entry-
19 exit control system that would collect a record of depar-
20 ture for every alien departing the United States and match
21 the record of departure with the record of the alien’s ar-
22 rival in the United States, including departures and arriv-
23 als at the land borders and seaports of the United States.

24 (b) CONTENTS OF REPORT.—Such report shall—

1 (1) assess the costs and feasibility of various
2 means of operating such an automated entry-exit
3 control system, including exploring—

4 (A) how, if the automated entry-exit con-
5 trol system were limited to certain aliens arriv-
6 ing at airports, departure records of those
7 aliens could be collected when they depart
8 through a land border or seaport; and

9 (B) the feasibility of the Attorney General,
10 in consultation with the Secretary of State, ne-
11 gotiating reciprocal agreements with the gov-
12 ernments of contiguous countries to collect such
13 information on behalf of the United States and
14 share it in an acceptable automated format;

15 (2) consider the various means of developing
16 such a system, including the use of pilot projects if
17 appropriate, and assess which means would be most
18 appropriate in which geographical regions;

19 (3) evaluate how such a system could be imple-
20 mented without increasing border traffic congestion
21 and border crossing delays and, if any such system
22 would increase border crossing delays, evaluate to
23 what extent such congestion or delays would in-
24 crease; and

1 (4) estimate the length of time that would be
2 required for any such system to be developed and
3 implemented.

4 **SEC. 4. INCREASED RESOURCES FOR BORDER CONTROL**
5 **AND ENFORCEMENT.**

6 (a) INCREASED NUMBER OF INS INSPECTORS AT
7 THE LAND BORDERS.—The Attorney General in each of
8 fiscal years 2000, 2001, and 2002 shall increase by not
9 less than 300 the number of full-time immigration inspec-
10 tors assigned to active duty at the land borders of the
11 United States by the Immigration and Naturalization
12 Service, above the number of such positions for which
13 funds were made available for the preceding fiscal year.
14 The inspectors added under the preceding sentence in each
15 fiscal year shall be assigned equally to the northern and
16 southern borders of the United States.

17 (b) INCREASED NUMBER OF CUSTOMS INSPECTORS
18 AT THE LAND BORDERS.—The Secretary of the Treasury
19 in each of fiscal years 2000, 2001, and 2002 shall increase
20 by not less than 150 the number of full-time inspectors
21 assigned to active duty at the land borders of the United
22 States by the Customs Service, above the number of such
23 positions for which funds were made available for the pre-
24 ceding fiscal year. The inspectors added under the pre-
25 ceding sentence in each fiscal year shall be assigned equal-

1 ly to the northern and southern borders of the United
2 States.

