

106TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 2883

To amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to confer United States citizenship automatically and retroactively on certain foreign-born children adopted by citizens of the United States.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 21, 1999

Mr. SMITH of Texas (for himself, Mr. LAHOOD, Mr. PAUL, Mr. NETHERCUTT, Mr. KUYKENDALL, and Mr. SHAYS) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

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## A BILL

To amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to confer United States citizenship automatically and retroactively on certain foreign-born children adopted by citizens of the United States.

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 “Adopted Orphans Citi-  
5 zenship Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. ACQUISITION OF UNITED STATES CITIZENSHIP BY**  
2 **CERTAIN ADOPTED CHILDREN.**

3 (a) AMENDMENTS TO THE IMMIGRATION AND NA-  
4 TIONALITY ACT.—Section 301 of the Immigration and  
5 Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1401) is amended—

6 (1) by striking “and” at the end of subsection  
7 (g);

8 (2) by striking the period at the end of sub-  
9 section (h) and inserting “; and”; and

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

11 “(i) an unmarried person, under the age of 18  
12 years, born outside the United States and its out-  
13 lying possessions and thereafter adopted by at least  
14 one parent who is a citizen of the United States and  
15 who has been physically present in the United States  
16 or one of its outlying possessions for a period or pe-  
17 riods totaling not less than 5 years prior to the  
18 adoption of the person, at least 2 of which were  
19 after attaining the age of 14 years, if—

20 “(1) the person is physically present in the  
21 United States with the citizen parent, having  
22 attained the status of an alien lawfully admitted  
23 for permanent residence;

24 “(2) the person satisfied the requirements  
25 in subparagraph (E) or (F) of section  
26 101(b)(1); and

1                   “(3) the person seeks documentation as a  
2                   United States citizen while under the age of 18  
3                   years.”.

4           (b) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendments made by  
5 subsection (a) shall apply with respect to persons adopted  
6 before, on, or after the date of enactment of this Act.

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