## [DISCUSSION DRAFT]

113TH CONGRESS 1ST SESSION  H.	R.
--------------------------------	----

To authorize the cancellation of removal and adjustment of status of certain alien students who are long-term United States residents and who entered the United States as children and for other purposes.

### IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr.	HECK of	Nevada	introduced	the foll	owing	bill; w.	hich v	vas re	ferred	to '	the
		Commit	tee on								

# A BILL

To authorize the cancellation of removal and adjustment of status of certain alien students who are long-term United States residents and who entered the United States as children 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; TABLE OF CONTENTS.
- 4 (a) Short Title.—This Act may be cited as the or
- 5 the .
- 6 (b) Table of Contents for
- 7 this Act is as follows:

- Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
- Sec. 2. Definitions.
- Sec. 3. Conditional permanent resident status for certain long-term residents who entered the United States as children.
- Sec. 4. Terms of conditional permanent resident status.
- Sec. 5. Removal of conditional basis of permanent resident status.
- Sec. 6. Regulations.
- Sec. 7. Penalties for false statements.
- Sec. 8. Confidentiality of information.
- Sec. 9. Higher education assistance.

#### SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

- 2 In this Act:
- 3 (1) In general.—Except as otherwise specifi-
- 4 cally provided, a term used in this Act that is used
- 5 in the immigration laws shall have the meaning
- 6 given such term in the immigration laws.
- 7 (2) Immigration laws.—The term "immigra-
- 8 tion laws" has the meaning given such term in sec-
- 9 tion 101(a)(17) of the Immigration and Nationality
- 10 Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(17)).
- 11 (3) Institution of higher education.—The
- term "institution of higher education" has the
- meaning given such term in section 102 of the High-
- 14 er Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1002), except
- that the term does not include institutions described
- in subsection (a)(1)(C) of such section 102.
- 17 (4) Secretary.—Except as otherwise specifi-
- cally provided, the term "Secretary" means the Sec-
- 19 retary of Homeland Security.

1	(5) Uniformed services.—The term "Uni-
2	formed Services" has the meaning given the term
3	"uniformed services" in section 101(a) of title 10,
4	United States Code.
5	SEC. 3. CONDITIONAL PERMANENT RESIDENT STATUS FOR
6	CERTAIN LONG-TERM RESIDENTS WHO EN-
7	TERED THE UNITED STATES AS CHILDREN.
8	(a) Conditional Basis for Status.—Notwith-
9	standing any other provision of law, an alien shall be con-
10	sidered, at the time of obtaining the status of an alien
11	lawfully admitted for permanent residence under this sec-
12	tion, to have obtained such status on a conditional basis
13	subject to the provisions of this Act.
14	(b) Requirements.—
15	(1) In General.—Notwithstanding any other
16	provision of law, the Secretary may cancel removal
17	of, and adjust to the status of an alien lawfully ad-
18	mitted for permanent residence on a conditional
19	basis, an alien who is inadmissible or deportable
20	from the United States or is in temporary protected
21	status under section 244 of the Immigration and
22	Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1254a), if the alien dem-
23	onstrates by a preponderance of the evidence that—
24	(A) the alien was physically present in the
25	United States on or before December 31, 2011;

1	(B) the alien maintained continuous phys-
2	ical presence in the United States from Decem-
3	ber 31, 2011 until the date on which the alien
4	is granted status under this section;
5	(C) the alien was 15 years of age or
6	younger on the date the alien initially entered
7	the United States;
8	(D) the alien has been a person of good
9	moral character since the date the alien initially
10	entered the United States;
11	(E) subject to paragraph (2), the alien—
12	(i) is not inadmissible under para-
13	graph $(2)$ , $(3)$ , $(6)(E)$ , $(6)(G)$ , $(8)$ ,
14	(10)(A), (10)(C), or (10)(D) of section
15	212(a) of the Immigration and Nationality
16	Act (8 U.S.C. 1182(a));
17	(ii) has not ordered, incited, assisted,
18	or otherwise participated in the persecution
19	of any person on account of race, religion,
20	nationality, membership in a particular so-
21	cial group, or political opinion; and
22	(iii) has not been convicted of—
23	(I) any offense under Federal or
24	State law punishable by a maximum

1	term of imprisonment of more than 1
2	year; or
3	(II) 3 or more offenses under
4	Federal or State law, for which the
5	alien was convicted on different dates
6	for each of the 3 offenses and impris-
7	oned for an aggregate of 90 days or
8	more; and
9	(F) the alien—
10	(i) has—
11	(I) been admitted to an institu-
12	tion of higher education in the United
13	States; or
14	(II) earned a high school diploma
15	or obtained a general education devel-
16	opment certificate in the United
17	States;
18	(ii) has commenced an apprenticeship
19	in a trade; or
20	(iii) has enlisted in the Uniformed
21	Services.
22	(2) Waiver.—With respect to any benefit
23	under this Act, the Secretary may waive the grounds
24	of inadmissibility under paragraph (6)(E), (6)(G), or
25	(10)(D) of section 212(a) of the Immigration and

1	Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1182(a)) for humanitarian
2	purposes or family unity or when it is otherwise in
3	the public interest.
4	(3) Submission of biometric and bio-
5	GRAPHIC DATA.—The Secretary may not grant per-
6	manent resident status on a conditional basis to an
7	alien under this section unless the alien submits bio-
8	metric and biographic data, in accordance with pro-
9	cedures established by the Secretary. The Secretary
10	shall provide an alternative procedure for applicants
11	who are unable to provide such biometric or bio-
12	graphic data because of a physical impairment.
13	(4) Background Checks.—
14	(A) Requirement for background
15	CHECKS.—The Secretary shall utilize biometric,
16	biographic, and other data that the Secretary
17	determines is appropriate—
18	(i) to conduct security and law en-
19	forcement background checks of an alien
20	seeking permanent resident status on a
21	conditional basis under this section; and
22	(ii) to determine whether there is any
23	criminal, national security, or other factor
24	that would render the alien ineligible for
25	such status.

1	(B) Completion of background
2	CHECKS.—The security and law enforcement
3	background checks required by subparagraph
4	(A) for an alien shall be completed, to the satis-
5	faction of the Secretary, prior to the date the
6	Secretary grants permanent resident status on
7	a conditional basis to the alien.
8	(C) Fees.—The Secretary shall assess a
9	fee on the applicant to cover the costs of the
10	background checks under this paragraph.
11	(5) Military selective service.—An alien
12	applying for permanent resident status on a condi-
13	tional basis under this section shall establish that
14	the alien has registered under the Military Selective
15	Service Act (50 U.S.C. App. 451 et seq.), if the
16	alien is subject to such registration under that Act.
17	(c) Determination of Continuous Presence.—
18	(1) Termination of continuous period.—
19	Any period of continuous physical presence in the
20	United States of an alien who applies for permanent
21	resident status on a conditional basis under this sec-
22	tion shall not terminate when the alien is served a
23	notice to appear under section 239(a) of the Immi-
24	gration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1229(a)).

1	(2) Treatment of certain breaks in pres-
2	ENCE.—
3	(A) In general.—An alien shall be con-
4	sidered to have failed to maintain continuous
5	physical presence in the United States under
6	subsection $(b)(1)(A)$ if the alien has departed
7	from the United States for any period in excess
8	of 90 days or for any periods in the aggregate
9	exceeding 180 days.
10	(B) Extensions for extenuating cir-
11	CUMSTANCES.—The Secretary may extend the
12	time periods described in subparagraph (A) for
13	an alien if the alien demonstrates that the fail-
14	ure to timely return to the United States was
15	due to extenuating circumstances beyond the
16	alien's control.
17	(d) Application.—
18	(1) In general.—An alien seeking lawful per-
19	manent resident status on a conditional basis shall
20	file an application for such status in such manner as
21	the Secretary may require, and shall include a fee in
22	an amount determined appropriate by the Secretary
23	to cover the costs of reviewing the application.
24	(2) Deadline for submission of applica-
25	TION.—An alien shall submit an application for re-

1	lief under this section not later than the date that
2	is 1 year after the later of—
3	(A) the date the alien earned a high school
4	diploma or obtained a general education devel-
5	opment certificate in the United States; or
6	(B) the effective date of the final regula-
7	tions issued pursuant to section 6.
8	(e) Limitation on Removal of Certain
9	ALIENS.—
10	(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary or the Attor-
11	ney General may not remove an alien who—
12	(A) has a pending application for relief
13	under this section; and
14	(B) establishes prima facie eligibility for
15	relief under this section.
16	(2) CERTAIN ALIENS ENROLLED IN PRIMARY
17	OR SECONDARY SCHOOL.—
18	(A) STAY OF REMOVAL.—The Attorney
19	General shall stay the removal proceedings of
20	an alien who—
21	(i) meets all the requirements of sub-
22	paragraphs (A), (B), (C), (D), and (F) of
23	subsection (b)(1);
24	(ii) is at least 5 years of age; and

1	(iii) is enrolled full-time in a primary
2	or secondary school.
3	(B) ALIENS NOT IN REMOVAL PRO-
4	CEEDINGS.—If an alien is not in removal pro-
5	ceedings, the Secretary shall not commence
6	such proceedings with respect to the alien if the
7	alien is described in clauses (i) through (iii) of
8	subparagraph (A).
9	(C) Employment.—An alien whose re-
10	moval is stayed pursuant to subparagraph (A)
11	or who may not be placed in removal pro-
12	ceedings pursuant to subparagraph (B) shall,
13	upon application to the Secretary, be granted
14	an employment authorization document.
15	(D) Lift of Stay.—The Secretary or At-
16	torney General may lift the stay granted to an
17	alien under subparagraph (A) if the alien—
18	(i) is no longer enrolled in a primary
19	or secondary school; or
20	(ii) ceases to meet the requirements of
21	such paragraph.
22	(f) Exemption From Numerical Limitations.—
23	Nothing in this section or in any other law may be con-
24	strued to apply a numerical limitation on the number of

1	aliens who may be eligible for adjustment of status under
2	this Act.
3	SEC. 4. TERMS OF CONDITIONAL PERMANENT RESIDENT
4	STATUS.
5	(a) Period of Status.—Permanent resident status
6	on a conditional basis granted under this Act is—
7	(1) valid for a period of 6 years, unless such pe-
8	riod is extended by the Secretary; and
9	(2) subject to termination under subsection (c).
10	(b) Notice of Requirements.—
11	(1) AT TIME OF OBTAINING STATUS.—At the
12	time an alien obtains permanent resident status on
13	a conditional basis under this Act, the Secretary
14	shall provide for notice to the alien regarding the
15	provisions of this Act and the requirements to have
16	the conditional basis of such status removed.
17	(2) Effect of failure to provide no-
18	TICE.—The failure of the Secretary to provide a no-
19	tice under this subsection—
20	(A) shall not affect the enforcement of the
21	provisions of this Act with respect to the alien;
22	and
23	(B) shall not give rise to any private right
24	of action by the alien.
25	(c) Termination of Status.—

1	(1) In General.—The Secretary shall termi-
2	nate the conditional permanent resident status of an
3	alien, if the Secretary determines that the alien—
4	(A) ceases to meet the requirements of
5	subparagraph (C) or (D) of section 3(b)(1); or
6	(B) was discharged from the Uniformed
7	Services and did not receive an honorable dis-
8	charge.
9	(d) Return to Previous Immigration Status.—
10	(1) In general.—Except as provided in para-
11	graph (2), an alien whose permanent resident status
12	on a conditional basis expires under subsection
13	(a)(1) or is terminated under subsection (c) or
14	whose application for such status is denied shall re-
15	turn to the immigration status the alien had imme-
16	diately prior to receiving permanent resident status
17	on a conditional basis or applying for such status,
18	as appropriate.
19	(2) Special rule for temporary pro-
20	TECTED STATUS.—In the case of an alien whose per-
21	manent resident status on a conditional basis expires
22	under subsection (a)(1) or is terminated under sub-
23	section (e) or whose application for such status is
24	denied and who had temporary protected status im-
25	mediately prior to receiving or applying for such sta-

1	tus, as appropriate, the alien may not return to tem-
2	porary protected status if—
3	(A) the relevant designation under section
4	244(b) of the Immigration and Nationality Act
5	(8 U.S.C. 1254a(b)) has been terminated; or
6	(B) the Secretary determines that the rea-
7	son for terminating the permanent resident sta-
8	tus on a conditional basis renders the alien in-
9	eligible for temporary protected status.
10	(e) Information Systems.—The Secretary shall
11	use the information systems of the Department of Home-
12	land Security to maintain current information on the iden-
13	tity, address, and immigration status of aliens granted
14	permanent resident status on a conditional basis under
15	this Act.
16	SEC. 5. REMOVAL OF CONDITIONAL BASIS OF PERMANENT
17	RESIDENT STATUS.
18	(a) Eligibility for Removal of Conditional
19	Basis.—
20	(1) In General.—Subject to paragraph (2),
21	the Secretary may remove the conditional basis of an
22	alien's permanent resident status granted under this
23	Act if the alien demonstrates by a preponderance of
24	the evidence that—

1	(A) the alien has been a person of good
2	moral character during the entire period of con-
3	ditional permanent resident status;
4	(B) the alien is described in section
5	3(b)(1)(D);
6	(C) the alien has not abandoned the alien's
7	residence in the United States;
8	(D) the alien—
9	(i) has acquired a degree, certificate,
10	or other recognized educational credential
11	from an institution of higher education in
12	the United States;
13	[(ii) has completed an apprenticeship
14	in a trade; or
15	(iii) has served in the Uniformed
16	Services for [a full enlistment] and, if dis-
17	charged, received an honorable discharge;
18	and
19	(E) the alien has provided a list of each
20	secondary school (as that term is defined in sec-
21	tion 9101 of the Elementary and Secondary
22	Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7801)) that
23	the alien attended in the United States.

1	(2) Treatment of abandonment or resi-
2	DENCE.—For purposes of paragraph (1)(C), an
3	alien—
4	(A) shall be presumed to have abandoned
5	the alien's residence in the United States if the
6	alien is absent from the United States for more
7	than 365 days, in the aggregate, during the
8	alien's period of conditional permanent resident
9	status, unless the alien demonstrates to the sat-
10	isfaction of the Secretary that the alien has not
11	abandoned such residence; and
12	(B) who is absent from the United States
13	due to active service in the Uniformed Services
14	has not abandoned the alien's residence in the
15	United States during the period of such service.
16	(3) CITIZENSHIP REQUIREMENT.—
17	(A) In general.—Except as provided in
18	subparagraph (B), the conditional basis of an
19	alien's permanent resident status may not be
20	removed unless the alien demonstrates that the
21	alien satisfies the requirements of section
22	312(a) of the Immigration and Nationality Act
23	(8 U.S.C. 1423(a)).
24	(B) Exception.—Subparagraph (A) shall
25	not apply to an alien who is unable because of

1	a physical or developmental disability or mental
2	impairment to meet the requirements of such
3	subparagraph.
4	(4) Submission of biometric and bio-
5	GRAPHIC DATA.—The Secretary may not remove the
6	conditional basis of an alien's permanent resident
7	status unless the alien submits biometric and bio-
8	graphic data, in accordance with procedures estab-
9	lished by the Secretary. The Secretary shall provide
10	an alternative procedure for applicants who are un-
11	able to provide such biometric data because of a
12	physical impairment.
13	(5) Background Checks.—
14	(A) REQUIREMENT FOR BACKGROUND
15	CHECKS.—The Secretary shall utilize biometric,
16	biographic, and other data that the Secretary
17	determines appropriate—
18	(i) to conduct security and law en-
19	forcement background checks of an alien
20	applying for removal of the conditional
21	basis of the alien's permanent resident sta-
22	tus; and
23	(ii) to determine whether there is any
24	criminal, national security, or other factor

1	that would render the alien ineligible for
2	removal of such conditional basis.
3	(B) Completion of Background
4	CHECKS.—The security and law enforcement
5	background checks required by subparagraph
6	(A) for an alien shall be completed, to the satis-
7	faction of the Secretary, prior to the date the
8	Secretary removes the conditional basis of the
9	alien's permanent resident status.
10	(b) Application To Remove Conditional
11	Basis.—
12	(1) In general.—An alien seeking to have the
13	conditional basis of the alien's lawful permanent
14	resident status removed shall file an application for
15	such removal in such manner as the Secretary may
16	require.
17	(2) Deadline for submission of applica-
18	TION.—
19	(A) IN GENERAL.—An alien shall file an
20	application under this subsection during the pe-
21	riod beginning 6 months prior to and ending on
22	the date that is later of—
23	(i) 6 years after the date the alien
24	was initially granted conditional permanent
25	resident status; or

1	(ii) any other expiration date of the
2	alien's conditional permanent resident sta-
3	tus, as extended by the Secretary in ac-
4	cordance with this Act.
5	(B) Status during pendency.—An
6	alien shall be deemed to have permanent resi-
7	dent status on a conditional basis during the
8	period that the alien's application submitted
9	under this subsection is pending.
10	(3) Adjudication of application.—
11	(A) In General.—The Secretary shall
12	make a determination on each application filed
13	by an alien under this subsection as to whether
14	the alien meets the requirements for removal of
15	the conditional basis of the alien's permanent
16	resident status.
17	(B) Adjustment of status if favor-
18	ABLE DETERMINATION.—If the Secretary deter-
19	mines that the alien meets such requirements,
20	the Secretary shall notify the alien of such de-
21	termination and remove the conditional basis of
22	the alien's permanent resident status, effective
23	as of the date of such determination.
24	(C) TERMINATION IF ADVERSE DETER-
25	MINATION.—If the Secretary determines that

1	the alien does not meet such requirements, the
2	Secretary shall notify the alien of such deter-
3	mination and, if the period of the alien's condi-
4	tional permanent resident status under section
5	4(a)(1) has ended, terminate the conditional
6	permanent resident status granted the alier
7	under this Act as of the date of such deter-
8	mination.
9	(c) Treatment for Purposes of Naturaliza-
10	TION.—
11	(1) In general.—For purposes of title III of
12	the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1401
13	et seq.), an alien granted permanent resident status
14	on a conditional basis under this Act shall be consid-
15	ered to have been admitted as an alien lawfully ad-
16	mitted for permanent residence and to be in the
17	United States as an alien lawfully admitted to the
18	United States for permanent residence.
19	(2) Limitation on application for natu-
20	RALIZATION.—An alien may not apply for natu-
21	ralization during the period that the alien is in per-
22	manent resident status on a conditional basis under
23	this Act.

#### 1 SEC. 6. REGULATIONS.

- 2 (a) Initial Publication.—Not later than 180 days
- 3 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary
- 4 shall publish regulations implementing this Act. Such reg-
- 5 ulations shall allow eligible individuals to apply affirma-
- 6 tively for the relief available under section 3 without being
- 7 placed in removal proceedings.
- 8 (b) Interim Regulations.—Notwithstanding sec-
- 9 tion 553 of title 5, United States Code, the regulations
- 10 required by subsection (a) shall be effective, on an interim
- 11 basis, immediately upon publication but may be subject
- 12 to change and revision after public notice and opportunity
- 13 for a period of public comment.
- 14 (c) Final Regulations.—Within a reasonable time
- 15 after publication of the interim regulations in accordance
- 16 with subsection (b), the Secretary shall publish final regu-
- 17 lations implementing this Act.
- 18 (d) Paperwork Reduction Act.—The require-
- 19 ments of chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code (com-
- 20 monly known as the "Paperwork Reduction Act") shall
- 21 not apply to any action to implement this Act.

#### 22 SEC. 7. PENALTIES FOR FALSE STATEMENTS.

- Whoever files an application for any relief or benefit
- 24 under this Act and willfully and knowingly falsifies, mis-
- 25 represents, or conceals a material fact or makes any false
- 26 or fraudulent statement or representation, or makes or

uses any false writing or document knowing the same to contain any false or fraudulent statement or entry, shall 3 be fined in accordance with title 18, United States Code, 4 imprisoned not more than 5 years, or both. SEC. 8. CONFIDENTIALITY OF INFORMATION. 6 (a) Prohibition.—Except as provided in subsection 7 (b), no officer or employee of the United States may— 8 (1) use the information furnished by an indi-9 vidual pursuant to an application filed under this 10 Act in removal proceedings against any person iden-11 tified in the application; 12 (2) make any publication whereby the informa-13 tion furnished by any particular individual pursuant 14 to an application under this Act can be identified; or 15 (3) permit anyone other than an officer, em-16 ployee or authorized contractor of the United States 17 Government or, in the case of an application filed 18 under this Act with a designated entity, that des-19 ignated entity, to examine such application filed 20 under such sections. 21 (b) REQUIRED DISCLOSURE.—The Attorney General 22 or the Secretary shall provide the information furnished 23 under this Act, and any other information derived from such furnished information, to—

1	(1) a Federal, State, tribal, or local law enforce-
2	ment agency, intelligence agency, national security
3	agency, component of the Department of Homeland
4	Security, court, or grand jury in connection with a
5	criminal investigation or prosecution, a background
6	check conducted pursuant to section 103 of the
7	Brady Handgun Violence Protection Act (Public
8	Law 103–159; 18 U.S.C. 922 note), or national se-
9	curity purposes, if such information is requested by
10	such entity or consistent with an information shar-
11	ing agreement or mechanism; or
12	(2) an official coroner for purposes of affirma-
13	tively identifying a deceased individual (whether or
14	not such individual is deceased as a result of a
15	crime).
16	(c) Fraud in Application Process or Criminal
17	CONDUCT.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this
18	section, information concerning whether an alien seeking
19	relief under this Act has engaged in fraud in an applica-
20	tion for such relief or at any time committed a crime may
21	be used or released for immigration enforcement, law en-
22	forcement, or national security purposes.
23	(d) Penalty.—Whoever knowingly uses, publishes,
24	or permits information to be examined in violation of this
25	section shall be fined not more than \$10,000.

### 1 SEC. 9. HIGHER EDUCATION ASSISTANCE.

2	(a) In General.—Notwithstanding any provision of
3	the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001 et
4	seq.), with respect to assistance provided under title IV
5	of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1070
6	et seq.), an alien who has permanent resident status on
7	a conditional basis under this Act shall be eligible only
8	for the following assistance under such title:
9	(1) Student loans under parts D and E of such
10	title IV (20 U.S.C. 1087a et seq. and 1087aa et
11	seq.), subject to the requirements of such parts.
12	(2) Federal work-study programs under part C
13	of such title IV (42 U.S.C. 2751 et seq.), subject to
14	the requirements of such part.
15	(3) Services under such title IV (20 U.S.C.
16	1070 et seq.), subject to the requirements for such
17	services.
18	(b) RESTORATION OF STATE OPTION TO DETER-
19	MINE RESIDENCY FOR PURPOSES OF HIGHER EDUCATION
20	Benefits.—
21	(1) In general.—Section 505 of the Illegal
22	Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility
23	Act of 1996 (8 U.S.C. 1623) is repealed.
24	(2) Effective date.—The repeal under para-
25	graph (1) shall take effect as if included in the en-
26	actment of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Im-

- 1 migrant Responsibility Act of 1996 (division C of
- Public Law 104–208; 110 Stat. 3009–546).