

116TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. _____

To amend section 402 of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 to extend the eligibility period for supplemental security income benefits for refugees, asylees, and certain other humanitarian immigrants, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mrs. MURRAY introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To amend section 402 of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 to extend the eligibility period for supplemental security income benefits for refugees, asylees, and certain other humanitarian immigrants, 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 “Protecting Benefits
5 for Elderly Refugees and Refugees with Disabilities Dur-
6 ing COVID-19 Act of 2020”.

1 **SEC. 2. EXTENSION OF ELIGIBILITY PERIOD FOR SSI BENE-**
2 **FITS FOR CERTAIN RECIPIENTS.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 402(a)(2)(M) of the Per-
4 sonal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation
5 Act of 1996 (8 U.S.C. 1612(a)(2)(M)) is amended—

6 (1) in clause (i)(I), by inserting “and the period
7 beginning on January 31, 2020, and ending on Sep-
8 tember 30, 2021” after “fiscal years 2009 through
9 2011,”; and

10 (2) in clause (ii), by inserting “and the period
11 beginning on January 31, 2020, and ending on Sep-
12 tember 30, 2021,” after “fiscal years 2009 through
13 2011”.

14 (b) SPECIAL RULE IN CASE OF APPEALED NATU-
15 RALIZATION APPLICATION.—Section 402(a)(2)(M)(ii) of
16 the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Rec-
17 onciliation Act of 1996 (8 U.S.C. 1612(a)(2)(M)(ii)), as
18 amended by subsection (a)(2), is amended—

19 (1) in the heading, by inserting “, APPEALED,”
20 after “PENDING”,

21 (2) by inserting “or on appeal” after “that is
22 pending”, and

23 (3) by inserting “, appealed,” after “such appli-
24 cation is pending”.

1 (c) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section
2 402(a)(2)(M) of such Act is amended, in the subpara-
3 graph heading, by striking “THROUGH FISCAL YEAR 2011”.

4 (d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
5 this section shall take effect on January 31, 2020.

6 **SEC. 3. NATURALIZATION APPLICATION FEE WAIVER.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding sections 286(m)
8 and 344(a) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8
9 U.S.C. 1356(m) and 8 U.S.C. 1455(a)), no fee shall be
10 charged or collected from an applicant described in sub-
11 section (b) in conjunction with—

- 12 (1) filing an application for naturalization;
13 (2) conducting a hearing on such application; or
14 (3) the issuance of a certificate of naturaliza-
15 tion upon being granted United States citizenship.

16 (b) APPLICANT DESCRIBED.—An applicant is de-
17 scribed in this section if the applicant—

- 18 (1) is receiving payments under the supple-
19 mental security income program established under
20 title XVI of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1381
21 et seq.); and

- 22 (2) is applying, or has applied, to become a nat-
23 uralized citizen of the United States in accordance
24 with section 334 of the Immigration and Nationality
25 Act (8 U.S.C. 1445).