

THE AFGHAN ADJUSTMENT ACT

For more than 20 years, the U.S. mission in Afghanistan relied on thousands of Afghan nationals who served as translators, interpreters, and civil society leaders to support our troops and embassy. They risked their lives, and the lives of their families, to assist the United States. In exchange for this service, we promised them safety and security. It is time to keep our promises and support these allies. The Afghan Adjustment Act is bipartisan, bicameral legislation establishing a pathway to lawful permanent status for Afghans admitted to the United States with temporary humanitarian status following the U.S. withdrawal from Afghanistan in August 2021.

THE PROBLEM

Currently, Afghans who were admitted to the United States under temporary humanitarian parole following the U.S. withdrawal from Afghanistan can only pursue permanent legal status through the asylum system or, for those who directly supported the U.S. military mission in Afghanistan during the last 20 years, the Afghan Special Immigrant Visa (SIV) program. Both options face severe backlogs, long processing times, and logistical obstacles for Afghans who were brought to the United States under emergency circumstances.

THE SOLUTION

The Afghan Adjustment Act would establish a pathway to lawful permanent resident status for eligible Afghans and incentivize those admitted to the United States with temporary humanitarian parole status to come forward for security vetting. After completing the additional vetting, including the in-person interview required during the application process, this pathway to status adjustment would provide eligible Afghans in need of protection with stability as they continue to rebuild their lives in the United States. Congress has passed similar [bipartisan adjustment legislation](#) in the wake of other wartime evacuations, humanitarian crises, and U.S. military actions including the Vietnam War, Operation Desert Storm, and Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Specifically, the Afghan Adjustment Act would:

- Allow Afghans with temporary humanitarian status in the U.S. who submit to additional security vetting to apply for permanent legal status.
- Establish an Interagency Task Force, led by the U.S. Department of State, to continue the relocation and resettlement of eligible Afghan partners from Afghanistan over the next ten years.
- Require the U.S. Department of State to respond to congressional inquiries related to SIV applications or U.S. Refugee Admissions Program (USRAP) referrals.
- Expand SIV eligibility for Afghans who worked and served alongside U.S. forces, including members of the Afghan National Army Special Operations Command, the Afghan Air Force, the Female Tactical Teams of Afghanistan, and the Special Mission Wing of Afghanistan.

SUPPORT FOR THE AFGHAN ADJUSTMENT ACT

Blue Star Families, American Legion, Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America, Student Veterans of America, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Evacuate Our Allies Coalition, AfghanEvac Coalition, Afghan-American Foundation, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, the National Immigration Forum, and [more](#).

For more information, please contact Rep. Miller-Meeks (Blake.Dickerson@mail.house.gov) or Rep. Blumenauer (Sonia.Norton@mail.house.gov).