

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 4650

To amend the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 to establish
a repatriation grant program.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 23, 2025

Mr. ESPAILLAT (for himself, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, and Mr. NADLER) introduced
the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

A BILL

To amend the State Department Basic Authorities Act of
1956 to establish a repatriation grant program.

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 “Safe Return Act”.

5 **SEC. 2. REPATRIATION GRANT PROGRAM.**

6 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 4 of the State Depart-
7 ment Basic Authorities Act of 1956 (22 U.S.C. 2671) is
8 amended—

9 (1) in subsection (b)(2)—

1 (A) in subparagraph (A), by amending
2 clause (ii) to read as follows:

3 “(ii) private United States citizens,
4 lawful permanent residents of the United
5 States, or third-country nationals, on a
6 grant basis, to the maximum extent prac-
7 ticable;”;

8 (B) in subparagraph (B)—

9 (i) by striking “loans” and inserting
10 “grants”;

11 (ii) by inserting “and destitute lawful
12 permanent residents of the United States”
13 after “destitute citizens of the United
14 States”; and

15 (iii) by adding at the end before the
16 semicolon the following: “and lawful per-
17 manent residents”; and

18 (2) in subsection (d)—

19 (A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1),
20 by striking “loan” and inserting “grant”;

21 (B) in paragraph (1)—

22 (i) by striking “borrower” and insert-
23 ing “grantee”; and

24 (ii) by adding “and” at the end;

1 (C) in paragraph (2), by striking “a writ-
2 ten loan agreement” and all that follows and in-
3 serting “a written grant agreement.”; and

4 (D) by striking paragraphs (3) through
5 (11).

6 (b) UPDATE TO FOREIGN AFFAIRS MANUAL.—The
7 Secretary of State shall update the “Repatriation Loans”
8 section of the Foreign Affairs Manual to reflect the
9 amendments made by subsection (a).

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