

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 604

To amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to permit the Governor of a State to reject the resettlement of a refugee in that State unless there is adequate assurance that the alien does not present a security risk, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 23, 2017

Mr. POE of Texas (for himself, Mr. BABIN, Mr. FARENTHOLD, Mr. SMITH of Texas, Mr. BYRNE, Mr. ALLEN, and Mr. OLSON) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to permit the Governor of a State to reject the resettlement of a refugee in that State unless there is adequate assurance that the alien does not present a security risk, 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 “State Refugee Security
5 Act of 2017”.

1 **SEC. 2. AUTHORITY OF STATES TO REJECT RESETTLEMENT**
2 **OF REFUGEES.**

3 Section 207 of the Immigration and Nationality Act
4 (8 U.S.C. 1157) is amended by adding at the end the fol-
5 lowing:

6 “(g) NOTICE OF REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT.—The
7 Office of Refugee Resettlement shall notify the State agen-
8 cy responsible for coordinating the placement or resettlement of an alien eligible to be admitted to the United
9 States under this section not later than 21 days before
10 the arrival of such alien in the State.

12 “(h) STATE REJECTION OF REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no
13 alien eligible to be admitted to the United States under
14 this section shall be placed or resettled in a State if the
15 Governor of that State certifies to the Director of the Of-
16 fice of Refugee Resettlement that the Director has failed,
17 in the sole determination of the Governor, to provide ade-
18 quate assurance that the alien does not present a security
19 risk to the State.”.

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