

116TH CONGRESS 1ST SESSION

H. R. 3328

To limit the fees charged and collected from applicants for naturalization and related benefits based on poverty, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

June 18, 2019

Mrs. Torres of California (for herself, Mr. Espaillat, Ms. Omar, Mr. Sires, Mr. García of Illinois, and Mr. Carbajal) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

- To limit the fees charged and collected from applicants for naturalization and related benefits based on poverty, 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 "Citizenship Afford-
 - 5 ability Act".
 - 6 SEC. 2. PERMANENT FULL AND PARTIAL INCOME-BASED
 - 7 NATURALIZATION FEE WAIVERS.
 - 8 Section 344(b) of the Immigration and Nationality
 - 9 Act (8 U.S.C. 1455(b)) is amended—

1	(1) in the enumerator, by striking "(b)" and in-
2	serting " $(b)(1)$ "; and
3	(2) by adding at the end the following:
4	"(2) Notwithstanding the provisions of this Act
5	or any other law, the following fee waivers shall
6	apply:
7	"(A) In the case of an alien whose income
8	is less than 150 percent of the Federal poverty
9	line, no fee shall be charged or collected for—
10	"(i) the filing of an application for
11	naturalization or the issuance of a certifi-
12	cate of naturalization upon admission to
13	citizenship;
14	"(ii) the filing of an application to
15	preserve residence for naturalization pur-
16	poses;
17	"(iii) the filing of an application for a
18	replacement naturalization or citizenship
19	document;
20	"(iv) the filing of an application for
21	citizenship and issuance of certificate of
22	citizenship under section 322 (Form N-
23	600K);
24	"(v) the filing of an application for
25	certificate of citizenship (Form N-600): or

1	"(vi) a biometrics capture or back-
2	ground check associated with any applica-
3	tion described in clauses (i), (ii), (iii), and
4	(iv).
5	"(B) In the case of an alien whose income
6	is less than 250 percent of the Federal poverty
7	line, not more than 50 percent of the applicable
8	fee shall be charged or collected for—
9	"(i) the filing of an application for
10	naturalization or the issuance of a certifi-
11	cate of naturalization upon admission to
12	citizenship;
13	"(ii) the filing of an application to
14	preserve residence for naturalization pur-
15	poses;
16	"(iii) the filing of an application for a
17	replacement naturalization or citizenship
18	document;
19	"(iv) the filing of an application for
20	citizenship and issuance of certificate of
21	citizenship under section 322 (Form N-
22	$600\mathrm{K});$
23	"(v) the filing of an application for
24	certificate of citizenship (Form N-600): or

1	"(vi) a biometrics capture or back-
2	ground check associated with any applica-
3	tion described in clauses (i), (ii), (iii), and
4	(iv).

"(3) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall consider the receipt of means-tested benefits as a criterion for the purpose of demonstrating eligibility for a fee waiver under paragraph (2).

"(4) In this subsection, the term 'Federal poverty line' has the meaning given such term by the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, as revised annually by the Secretary of Health and Human Services in accordance with section 673(2) of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1981 (42 U.S.C. 9902)."

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