

105TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 3983

To provide for certain procedures applicable to the issuance of passports
for children under 16.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 3, 1998

Mr. GIBBONS introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on International Relations

A BILL

To provide for certain procedures applicable to the issuance
of passports for children under 16.

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. PASSPORTS ISSUED FOR CHILDREN UNDER 16.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1 of title IX of the Act
5 to punish acts of interference with the foreign relations,
6 the neutrality, and the foreign commerce of the United
7 States, to punish espionage, and better to enforce the
8 criminal laws of the United States, and for other purposes
9 (June 15, 1917; 22 U.S.C. 213) is amended—

1 (1) by striking “Before” and inserting “(a) IN
2 GENERAL.—Before”, and

3 (2) by adding at the end the following new sub-
4 section:

5 “(b) PASSPORTS ISSUED FOR CHILDREN UNDER
6 16.—

7 “(1) SIGNATURES REQUIRED.—In the case of a
8 child under the age of 16, the written application re-
9 quired as a prerequisite to the issuance of a passport
10 for such child shall be signed by—

11 “(A) both parents of the child if the child
12 lives with both parents;

13 “(B) the parent of the child having pri-
14 mary custody of the child if the child does not
15 live with both parents; or

16 “(C) the surviving parent (or legal guard-
17 ian) of the child, if 1 or both parents are de-
18 ceased.

19 “(2) WAIVER.—The Secretary of State may
20 waive the requirements of paragraph (1)(A) if the
21 Secretary determines that circumstances do not per-
22 mit obtaining the signatures of both parents.”.

23 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
24 this section shall apply to applications for passports filed

1 more than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this
2 Act.

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