

months, 18 months, 24 months, 36 months, and 48 months or more;

(iv) estimated processing times adjudicating newly submitted naturalization applications;

(v) an analysis of the appropriate processing times for naturalization applications; and

(vi) the additional resources and process changes needed to eliminate the backlog for naturalization adjudications;

(B) the status of applications or, where applicable, petitions described in subparagraph (C), by Immigration and Naturalization Service district, including—

(i) the number of cases adjudicated in each quarter of each fiscal year;

(ii) the average processing time for such applications or petitions;

(iii) the number of applications or petitions pending for up to 6 months, 12 months, 18 months, 24 months, 36 months, and 48 months or more;

(iv) the estimated processing times adjudicating newly submitted applications or petitions;

(v) an analysis of the appropriate processing times for applications or petitions; and

(vi) a description of the additional resources and process changes needed to eliminate the backlog for such processing and adjudications; and

(C) a status report on—

(i) applications for adjustments of status to that of an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence;

(ii) petitions for nonimmigrant visas under section 1184 of this title;

(iii) petitions filed under section 1154 of this title to classify aliens as immediate relatives or preference immigrants under section 1153 of this title;

(iv) applications for asylum under section 1158 of this title;

(v) registrations for Temporary Protected Status under section 1254a of this title; and

(vi) a description of the additional resources and process changes needed to eliminate the backlog for such processing and adjudications.

(3) Absence of appropriated funds

In the event that no funds are appropriated subject to section 1573(b) of this title in the fiscal year in which this Act is enacted, the Attorney General shall submit a report to Congress not later than 90 days after the end of such fiscal year, and each fiscal year thereafter, containing the elements described in paragraph (2).

(Pub. L. 106-313, title II, §205, Oct. 17, 2000, 114 Stat. 1263.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The fiscal year in which this Act is enacted, referred to in subsec. (b)(3), is the fiscal year in which Pub. L. 106-313, which was approved Oct. 17, 2000, was enacted.

ABOLITION OF IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION SERVICE AND TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS

For abolition of Immigration and Naturalization Service, transfer of functions, and treatment of related references, see note set out under section 1551 of this title.

CHAPTER 14—RESTRICTING WELFARE AND PUBLIC BENEFITS FOR ALIENS

Sec. 1601. Statements of national policy concerning welfare and immigration.

SUBCHAPTER I—ELIGIBILITY FOR FEDERAL BENEFITS

1611. Aliens who are not qualified aliens ineligible for Federal public benefits.

- (a) In general.
- (b) Exceptions.
- (c) "Federal public benefit" defined.

1612. Limited eligibility of qualified aliens for certain Federal programs.

- (a) Limited eligibility for specified Federal programs.
- (b) Limited eligibility for designated Federal programs.

1613. Five-year limited eligibility of qualified aliens for Federal means-tested public benefit.

- (a) In general.
- (b) Exceptions.
- (c) Application of term Federal means-tested public benefit.
- (d) Benefits for certain groups.

1614. Notification and information reporting.

1615. Requirements relating to provision of benefits based on citizenship, alienage, or immigration status under the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act, the Child Nutrition Act of 1966, and certain other acts.

- (a) School lunch and breakfast programs.
- (b) Other programs.

SUBCHAPTER II—ELIGIBILITY FOR STATE AND LOCAL PUBLIC BENEFITS PROGRAMS

1621. Aliens who are not qualified aliens or non-immigrants ineligible for State and local public benefits.

- (a) In general.
- (b) Exceptions.
- (c) "State or local public benefit" defined.
- (d) State authority to provide for eligibility of illegal aliens for State and local public benefits.

1622. State authority to limit eligibility of qualified aliens for State public benefits.

- (a) In general.
- (b) Exceptions.

1623. Limitation on eligibility for preferential treatment of aliens not lawfully present on basis of residence for higher education benefits.

- (a) In general.
- (b) Effective date.

1624. Authority of States and political subdivisions of States to limit assistance to aliens and to distinguish among classes of aliens in providing general cash public assistance.

- (a) In general.
- (b) Limitation.

1625. Authorization for verification of eligibility for State and local public benefits.

SUBCHAPTER III—ATTRIBUTION OF INCOME AND AFFIDAVITS OF SUPPORT

1631. Federal attribution of sponsor's income and resources to alien.

- Sec.
- (a) In general.
 - (b) Duration of attribution period.
 - (c) Review of income and resources of alien upon reapplication.
 - (d) Application.
 - (e) Indigence exception.
 - (f) Special rule for battered spouse and child.
1632. Authority for States to provide for attribution of sponsors income and resources to the alien with respect to State programs.
- (a) Optional application to State programs.
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SUBCHAPTER IV—GENERAL PROVISIONS

1641. Definitions.
- (a) In general.
 - (b) Qualified alien.
 - (c) Treatment of certain battered aliens as qualified aliens.
1642. Verification of eligibility for Federal public benefits.
- (a) In general.
 - (b) State compliance.
 - (c) Authorization of appropriations.
 - (d) No verification requirement for non-profit charitable organizations.
1643. Statutory construction.
- (a) Limitation.
 - (b) Benefit eligibility limitations applicable only with respect to aliens present in United States.
 - (c) Not applicable to foreign assistance.
 - (d) Severability.
1644. Communication between State and local government agencies and Immigration and Naturalization Service.
1645. Qualifying quarters.
1646. Derivative eligibility for benefits.

§ 1601. Statements of national policy concerning welfare and immigration

The Congress makes the following statements concerning national policy with respect to welfare and immigration:

- (1) Self-sufficiency has been a basic principle of United States immigration law since this country's earliest immigration statutes.
- (2) It continues to be the immigration policy of the United States that—
 - (A) aliens within the Nation's borders not depend on public resources to meet their needs, but rather rely on their own capabilities and the resources of their families, their sponsors, and private organizations, and
 - (B) the availability of public benefits not constitute an incentive for immigration to the United States.
- (3) Despite the principle of self-sufficiency, aliens have been applying for and receiving public benefits from Federal, State, and local governments at increasing rates.
- (4) Current eligibility rules for public assistance and unenforceable financial support agreements have proved wholly incapable of assuring that individual aliens not burden the public benefits system.
- (5) It is a compelling government interest to enact new rules for eligibility and sponsorship agreements in order to assure that aliens be self-reliant in accordance with national immigration policy.
- (6) It is a compelling government interest to remove the incentive for illegal immigration provided by the availability of public benefits.

(7) With respect to the State authority to make determinations concerning the eligibility of qualified aliens for public benefits in this chapter, a State that chooses to follow the Federal classification in determining the eligibility of such aliens for public assistance shall be considered to have chosen the least restrictive means available for achieving the compelling governmental interest of assuring that aliens be self-reliant in accordance with national immigration policy.

(Pub. L. 104-193, title IV, § 400, Aug. 22, 1996, 110 Stat. 2260.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

This chapter, referred to in par. (7), was in the original "this title" meaning title IV of Pub. L. 104-193, Aug. 22, 1996, 110 Stat. 2260, as amended, which enacted this chapter, section 1183a of this title, and sections 611a and 1437y of Title 42, The Public Health and Welfare, amended section 1383 of this title, sections 32 and 6213 of Title 26, Internal Revenue Code, and sections 1436a and 1471 of Title 42, and enacted provisions set out as notes under section 1183a of this title and section 32 of Title 26. For complete classification of title IV to the Code, see Tables.

SUBCHAPTER I—ELIGIBILITY FOR FEDERAL BENEFITS

§ 1611. Aliens who are not qualified aliens ineligible for Federal public benefits

(a) In general

Notwithstanding any other provision of law and except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, an alien who is not a qualified alien (as defined in section 1641 of this title) is not eligible for any Federal public benefit (as defined in subsection (c) of this section).

(b) Exceptions

(1) Subsection (a) of this section shall not apply with respect to the following Federal public benefits:

(A) Medical assistance under title XIX of the Social Security Act [42 U.S.C. 1396 et seq.] (or any successor program to such title) for care and services that are necessary for the treatment of an emergency medical condition (as defined in section 1903(v)(3) of such Act [42 U.S.C. 1396b(v)(3)]) of the alien involved and are not related to an organ transplant procedure, if the alien involved otherwise meets the eligibility requirements for medical assistance under the State plan approved under such title (other than the requirement of the receipt of aid or assistance under title IV of such Act [42 U.S.C. 601 et seq.], supplemental security income benefits under title XVI of such Act [42 U.S.C. 1381 et seq.], or a State supplementary payment).

(B) Short-term, non-cash, in-kind emergency disaster relief.

(C) Public health assistance (not including any assistance under title XIX of the Social Security Act [42 U.S.C. 1396 et seq.]) for immunizations with respect to immunizable diseases and for testing and treatment of symptoms of communicable diseases whether or not such symptoms are caused by a communicable disease.

(D) Programs, services, or assistance (such as soup kitchens, crisis counseling and inter-