

Floor Amendment No. 4604 to S 2943

SHAHEEN AMENDMENT SA 4604

TEXT OF AMENDMENT

SA 4604 Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. REED, and Mr. MCCAIN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 2943, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2017 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle B of title XII, add the following:

SEC. 1216. SPECIAL IMMIGRANT STATUS FOR CERTAIN AFGHANS.

(a) Prioritization of Applications by the Chief of Mission.—Section 602(b)(2)(D)(i) of the Afghan Allies Protection Act of 2009 (8 U.S.C. 1101 note) is amended by adding at the end “In processing applications under this paragraph, the Chief of Mission shall prioritize, to the maximum extent practicable, applications for those aliens who have experienced or are experiencing an ongoing and credible serious threat as a consequence of the alien’s employment by the United States Government.”.

(b) Numerical Limitations.—Section 602(b)(3)(F) of such Act is amended—

- (1) in the subparagraph heading, by striking “AND 2017” and inserting “2017, AND 2018”;
- (2) by striking “December 31, 2016;” each place it appears and inserting “December 31, 2017;”; and
- (3) in the matter preceding clause (i)—
 - (A) by striking “exhausted,,” and inserting “exhausted,;” and
 - (B) by striking “7,000” and inserting “9,500”.

(c) Report.—Section 602(b)(14) of such Act is amended—

- (1) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking “Not later than 60 days after the date of the enactment of this paragraph,” and inserting “Not later than December 31, 2016, and annually thereafter through January 31, 2021,;” and
- (2) in subparagraph (A)(i), by striking “under this section;” and inserting “under subclause (I) or (II)(bb) of paragraph (2)(A)(ii);”.

(d) Plan to Bring Afghan SIV Program to a Responsible End.—Section 602(b) of such Act is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(17) PLAN TO BRING AFGHAN SIV PROGRAM TO A RESPONSIBLE END.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 120 days after the earlier of the date of the enactment of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017 or March 1, 2018, the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of State, in consultation with the Secretary of Homeland Security, the Chairman of the Joint

Chiefs of Staff, the Commander of United States Central Command, and the Commander Resolute Support/United States Forces - Afghanistan, shall submit a report to the appropriate committees of Congress that details a strategy for bringing the program authorized under this subsection to provide special immigrant status to certain Afghans to a responsible end by or before December 31, 2018.

“(B) CONTENT.—The report required under subparagraph (A) shall—

“(i) identify the number of visas that would be required to meet existing or reasonably projected commitments, taking into account the need to support a continued United States Government presence in Afghanistan;

“(ii) provide an estimate of how long such visas should remain available;

“(iii) assess whether other existing programs would be adequate to incentivize the continued recruitment, retention, and protection of critical Afghan employees, after the program authorized under this subsection expires; and

“(iv) describe potential alternative programs that could be considered if existing programs are inadequate.”.

(e) Report.—Not later than 120 days after the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security shall submit to Congress a report on the frequency, duration, and reasons recipients of these visas from Afghanistan travel back to Afghanistan.