

A Return of Talent program is an important piece of our overall strategy to stabilize and rebuild countries torn by conflict. I urge my colleagues to support his legislation.

I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD as follows:

S. 1949

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

**SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

This Act may be cited as the "Return of Talent Act".

**SEC. 2. RETURN OF TALENT PROGRAM.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Title III of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1401 et seq.) is amended by inserting after section 317 the following:

**"TEMPORARY ABSENCE OF PERSONS PARTICIPATING IN THE RETURN OF TALENT PROGRAM**

"SEC. 317A. (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Homeland Security shall establish the Return of Talent Program to permit eligible aliens to temporarily return to the alien's country of citizenship in order to make a material contribution to that country if the country is engaged in post-conflict reconstruction activities, for a period not exceeding 24 months, unless an exception is granted under subsection (d).

"(b) ELIGIBLE ALIEN.—An alien is eligible to participate in the Return of Talent Program established under subsection (a) if the alien meets the special immigrant description under section 101(a)(27)(N).

"(c) FAMILY MEMBERS.—The spouse, parents, siblings, and any children of an alien who participates in the Return of Talent Program established under subsection (a) may return to such alien's country of citizenship with the alien and reenter the United States with the alien.

"(d) EXTENSION OF TIME.—The Secretary of Homeland Security may extend the 24-month period referred to in subsection (a) upon a showing that circumstances warrant that an extension is necessary for post-conflict reconstruction efforts.

"(e) RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS.—An immigrant described in section 101(a)(27)(N) who participates in the Return of Talent Program established under subsection (a), and the spouse, parents, siblings, and any children who accompany such immigrant to that immigrant's country of citizenship, shall be considered, during such period of participation in the program—

"(1) for purposes of section 316(a), physically present and residing in the United States for purposes of naturalization within the meaning of that section; and

"(2) for purposes of section 316(b), to meet the continuous residency requirements in that section.

"(f) OVERSIGHT AND ENFORCEMENT.—The Secretary of Homeland Security, in consultation with the Secretary of State, shall oversee and enforce the requirements of this section."

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101 et seq.) is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 317 the following:

"317A. Temporary absence of persons participating in the Return of Talent Program."

**SEC. 3. ELIGIBLE IMMIGRANTS.**

Section 101(a)(27) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(27)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (L), by inserting a semicolon after "Improvement Act of 1998";

(2) in subparagraph (M), by striking the period and inserting "; or"; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

"(N) an immigrant who—

"(i) has been lawfully admitted to the United States for permanent residence;

"(ii) demonstrates an ability and willingness to make a material contribution to the post-conflict reconstruction in the alien's country of citizenship; and

"(iii) as determined by the Secretary of State in consultation with the Secretary of Homeland Security—

"(I) is a citizen of a country in which Armed Forces of the United States are engaged, or have engaged in the 10 years preceding such determination, in combat or peacekeeping operations; or

"(II) is a citizen of a country where authorization for United Nations peacekeeping operations was initiated by the United Nations Security Council during the 10 years preceding such determination."

**SEC. 4. REPORT TO CONGRESS.**

Not later than 24 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall submit a report to Congress that describes—

(1) the countries of citizenship of the participants in the Return of Talent Program established under section 2;

(2) the post-conflict reconstruction efforts that benefited, or were made possible, through participation in the program; and

(3) any other information that the Secretary of Homeland Security determines to be appropriate.

**SEC. 5. REGULATIONS.**

Not later than 6 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall promulgate regulations to carry out this Act.

**SEC. 6. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

There is authorized to be appropriated to the Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services for each of the fiscal years 2004 and 2005, such sums as may be necessary to carry out this Act.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 273—CONDEMNING THE TERRORIST ATTACKS IN ISTANBUL, TURKEY, ON NOVEMBER 15 AND 20, 2003, EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES TO THE FAMILIES OF THE INDIVIDUALS MURDERED IN THE ATTACKS, EXPRESSING SYMPATHIES TO THE INDIVIDUALS INJURED IN THE ATTACKS, AND EXPRESSING SOLIDARITY WITH THE REPUBLIC OF TURKEY AND THE UNITED KINGDOM IN THE FIGHT AGAINST TERRORISM

Mr. BROWNBACK (for himself and Mr. BIDEN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 273

Whereas, in Istanbul, Turkey, on November 15, 2003, two explosions set off minutes apart during Sabbath morning services devastated Neve Shalom, the largest synagogue in the city, and the Beth Israel synagogue, about 3 miles away from Neve Shalom;

Whereas the casualties of more than 20 people killed and more than 300 people wounded in the bombing attacks on the synagogues included both Muslims and Jews;

Whereas, on November 20, 2003, two bombs exploded in Istanbul at the Consulate of the United Kingdom and the HSBC Bank;

Whereas the casualties of more than 25 people killed and 450 people wounded in the November 20, 2003, bombing attacks included Muslims and Christians, and Turks, British diplomats, and visitors to the Republic of Turkey;

Whereas troops of the United Kingdom are part of the United States-led coalition that liberated Iraq from the regime of Saddam Hussein and are now present in Iraq under the auspices of the United Nations Security Council;

Whereas the acts of murder committed on November 15 and 20, 2003, in Istanbul, Turkey, were cowardly and brutal manifestations of international terrorism;

Whereas the Government of Turkey immediately condemned the terrorist attacks in the strongest possible terms and has vowed to bring the perpetrators to justice at all costs;

Whereas the United States, the United Kingdom, and Turkey equally abhor and denounce these hateful, repugnant, and loathsome acts of terrorism;

Whereas, in light of the escalation of anti-Semitic activities, the safety and security of Jewish people throughout the world is a matter of serious concern;

Whereas, since Turkey cherishes its traditions of hospitality and religious tolerance, and in particular its history of more than 500 years of good relations between Jews and Muslims, the attacks on synagogues, consular premises, and commercial buildings came as a special shock to the people of Turkey and to their friends throughout the world;

Whereas the United States and Turkey are allied by shared values and a common interest in building a stable, peaceful, and prosperous world;

Whereas Turkey, a predominantly Muslim nation with a secular government, has close relations with Israel and is also the only predominantly Muslim member of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization; and

Whereas the acts of murder committed on November 15 and 20, 2003, demonstrate again that terrorism respects neither boundaries nor borders: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) condemns in the strongest possible terms the terrorist attacks in Istanbul, Turkey, on November 15 and 20, 2003;

(2) expresses its condolences to the families of the individuals murdered in the terrorist attacks, expresses its sympathies to the individuals injured in the attacks, and conveys its hope for the rapid and complete recovery of all such injured individuals;

(3) expresses its condolences to the people and the governments of the Republic of Turkey and the United Kingdom over the losses they suffered in these attacks; and

(4) expresses its solidarity with the United Kingdom, Turkey, and all other countries that stand united against terrorism and work together to bring to justice the perpetrators of these and other terrorist attacks.

SENATE RESOLUTION 274—TO AUTHORIZE THE PRODUCTION OF RECORDS BY THE PERMANENT SUBCOMMITTEE ON INVESTIGATIONS OF THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Mr. FRIST (for himself, and Mr. DASCHLE) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to: