

116TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

**S.** \_\_\_\_\_

To prohibit the use of Federal funds to carry out the final rule of the Department of Homeland Security entitled “Inadmissibility on Public Charge Grounds”.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Ms. HIRONO introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

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**A BILL**

To prohibit the use of Federal funds to carry out the final rule of the Department of Homeland Security entitled “Inadmissibility on Public Charge Grounds”.

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 “Protect American Val-  
5 ues Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

7 It is the sense of Congress that—

8 (1) immigrants and their families are a core  
9 part of our Nation;

1           (2) the health and safety of immigrants is crit-  
2           ical to the health and safety of our communities;

3           (3) Federal, State, and local assistance pro-  
4           grams promote self-sufficiency by ensuring that fam-  
5           ilies, including immigrant and mixed-status families,  
6           maintain their health, strength, and stability to en-  
7           able them to continue contributing to the Nation’s  
8           social and economic life;

9           (4) the final rule of the Department of Home-  
10          land Security entitled “Inadmissibility on Public  
11          Charge Grounds”, published August 14, 2019, is a  
12          sweeping and dangerous policy that will impede ac-  
13          cess to essential food, medical care, housing, and  
14          other critical forms of assistance for many families,  
15          including those not directly subject to the rule due  
16          to its widespread chilling effect;

17          (5) this rule will harm families and children, in-  
18          cluding United States citizens as the Department of  
19          Homeland Security’s own assessment of the impacts  
20          of the rule acknowledge that the rule—

21                 (A) “may decrease disposable income and  
22                 increase the poverty of certain families and chil-  
23                 dren, including U.S. citizen children”; and

24                 (B) could lead to “[a]dverse health ef-  
25                 fects,” “[a]dditional medical expenses due to

1           delayed health care treatment,” “[i]ncreased  
2           disability insurance claims,” and “[p]otential  
3           lost productivity”;

4           (6) this rule will damage State and local econo-  
5           mies, while burdening health care and other service  
6           providers, as the Department of Homeland Secu-  
7           rity’s own assessment of the impacts of the rule rec-  
8           ognizes that the rule may “result in reduced reve-  
9           nues for healthcare providers,” “companies that  
10          manufacture medical supplies or pharmaceuticals,”  
11          “grocery retailers,” “agricultural producers,” and  
12          “landlords participating in Federally funded housing  
13          programs”; and

14          (7) this rule circumvents Congress and reverses  
15          100 years of United States law and policy by re-  
16          stricting immigration and decreasing the diversity of  
17          our Nation through factors such as family size, fi-  
18          nancial status, education and skills, and employ-  
19          ability and chilling access to services for which im-  
20          migrants and their citizen family members are eligi-  
21          ble, in a manner not authorized or contemplated by  
22          Congress.

23 **SEC. 3. PROHIBITION ON USE OF FUNDS.**

24          Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no Fed-  
25          eral funds appropriated or otherwise made available for

1 any fiscal year may be used to implement, administer, en-  
2 force, or carry out the final rule of the Department of  
3 Homeland Security entitled “Inadmissibility on Public  
4 Charge Grounds”, published August 14, 2019.