

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, more than one million American servicemembers, frontline civilians, intelligence community staff, and aid workers served the interests of the United States on the ground in Afghanistan from 2001 to 2021; and

WHEREAS, on August 31, 2021, the final U.S. troops withdrew from Afghanistan, leaving behind thousands of Afghans who risked their lives to support and become allies of the U.S. and its mission in Afghanistan and who continue to be at risk; and

WHEREAS, over 84,000 vulnerable Afghans were evacuated under *Operation Allies Welcome*, of which approximately 76,000 were transferred to the U.S.; and

WHEREAS, according to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, more than 70,000 of those resettled in the U.S. thus far have been processed under the humanitarian parole which offers only limited, temporary benefits; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. has historically passed adjustment acts to provide evacuees a path to lawful permanent residence when humanitarian parole has been used during emergency withdrawals from U.S. involved conflicts or humanitarian crises; and

WHEREAS, the bipartisan Afghan Adjustment Act was introduced in both the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate in August of 2022 which would allow Afghans on humanitarian status to apply for permanent legal residency through the asylum process or the Special Immigrant Visa (SIV) process.; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. and the rest of the world must recognize the importance of addressing the risk and uncertainty many Afghans are living under and commit to ongoing evacuation and protection efforts;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, with the concurrence of the Mayor, that by the adoption of this Resolution, the City of Los Angeles hereby includes in its 2021-2022 State and Federal Legislative Program support for The Afghan Adjustment Act (H.R. 8685/S.4787) which would provide a path to permanent status to tens of thousands of Afghans who were evacuated to the United States.

PRESENTED BY: 
NITHYA RAMAN
Councilmember, 4th District

SECONDED BY: 

SEP 16 2022 

ORIGINAL