

(LIMITED RUN SHOWING ALL ADDITIONAL SPONSORSHIPS)

**CS FOR HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 13(MLV)**

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

THIRTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY THE HOUSE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON MILITARY AND VETERANS' AFFAIRS

Offered: 4/30/25

Referred: Rules

Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVES STAPP, Saddler, Eischeid, Fields, Hannan, Hall, Allard, Josephson, Gray, Story, Bynum, Mina, Kopp

SENATORS Kawasaki, Tobin, Dunbar, Shower, Merrick, Bjorkman, Yundt, Claman, Kaufman, Myers, Stedman, Cronk

**A RESOLUTION**

1 **Urging the President of the United States to expand evacuation efforts for applicants**  
 2 **with approved Special Immigrant Visas, including resumption of evacuation flights**  
 3 **organized by the Coordinator for Afghan Relocation Efforts; urging the United States**  
 4 **Department of State to secure legal protections and humanitarian assistance for Special**  
 5 **Immigrant Visa applicants; urging the United States Citizenship and Immigration**  
 6 **Services in the United States Department of Homeland Security to expedite the review of**  
 7 **applications for Special Immigrant Visas; and requesting that the United States**  
 8 **Secretary of State provide a report to Congress regarding efforts to reinstate evacuation**  
 9 **flights for applicants with approved Special Immigrant Visas.**

10 **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

11 **WHEREAS**, on September 11, 2001, the United States experienced an unprecedented  
 12 terrorist attack in which nearly 3,000 innocent lives were lost, leading to the nation's  
 13 commitment to dismantle terrorist networks and ensure global security; and

1           **WHEREAS**, in response to the September 11 attacks, the United States launched  
2 Operation Enduring Freedom on October 7, 2001, marking the beginning of the United States-  
3 led mission in Afghanistan to eliminate Al-Qaeda and remove the Taliban regime, which had  
4 provided sanctuary to terrorist operatives; and

5           **WHEREAS**, on January 6, 2006, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal  
6 Year 2006 (P.L. 109-163) was enacted, including sec. 1059, which formally established the  
7 Special Immigrant Visa program as part of the Afghan Allies Protection Act; and

8           **WHEREAS** the Special Immigrant Visa program provided a pathway for Iraqi and  
9 Afghan nationals who worked as translators or interpreters for United States military forces to  
10 apply for permanent United States residency, recognizing their vital contributions and  
11 ensuring their protection; and

12           **WHEREAS**, on January 28, 2008, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal  
13 Year 2008 (P.L. 110-181) was enacted, incorporating the Refugee Crisis in Iraq Act of 2007  
14 under Subtitle C (secs. 1241 - 1249), which expanded the Special Immigrant Visa program to  
15 recognize the significant threats faced by Iraqi and Afghan allies who served the United States  
16 government, military, and contractors by allowing more Iraqi and Afghan allies to become  
17 eligible for visas, ensuring broader protections and a pathway to permanent residency in the  
18 United States; and

19           **WHEREAS**, on March 11, 2009, the Afghan Allies Protection Act was enacted as  
20 sec. 602(b) of the Omnibus Appropriations Act, 2009 (P.L. 111-8), which established a  
21 dedicated Special Immigrant Visa program for Afghan nationals, distinct from the Iraqi  
22 program, and authorized the issuance of 7,500 visas over five years to Afghan allies who  
23 provided faithful and valuable service to the United States government; and

24           **WHEREAS** the number of visas authorized for Afghans by the Special Immigrant  
25 Visa program has since been increased, through amendments by Congress, to a total of more  
26 than 50,500 visas; and

27           **WHEREAS** the Coordinator for Afghan Relocation Efforts in the United States  
28 Department of State is responsible for implementing sec. 2502 of the Extending Government  
29 Funding and Delivering Emergency Assistance Act (P.L. 117-43), which authorized the  
30 emergency evacuation and resettlement of Afghan allies following the withdrawal of the  
31 United States from Afghanistan; and

1           **WHEREAS** many Afghan Americans who have served alongside our service  
2 members and have already entered the United States through blue passports, green cards, or  
3 approved Special Immigrant Visas may still be trying to reunite with spouses and children  
4 who remain stranded in Afghanistan or Pakistan;

5           **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature urges the President of the  
6 United States to direct the United States Secretary of State to immediately resume evacuation  
7 flights organized by the Coordinator for Afghan Relocation Efforts to transport applicants  
8 with approved Special Immigrant Visas and their families from Afghanistan to designated  
9 third-party country processing centers; and be it

10          **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature urges the President of the  
11 United States to direct the United States Secretary of State to expedite and expand the  
12 evacuation of applicants with approved Special Immigrant Visas and their families from third-  
13 party host countries to the United States, ensuring timely processing and resettlement; and be  
14 it

15          **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature urges the United States  
16 Department of State to resume processing stalled applications by Afghan allies who have  
17 approved Special Immigrant Visas for the evacuation of their families from third-party host  
18 countries to the United States, thus preventing Afghan allies and their families from being  
19 separated indefinitely; and be it

20          **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature urges the United States  
21 Citizenship and Immigration Services in the United States Department of Homeland Security  
22 to expedite the review of pending applications for Special Immigrant Visas; and be it

23          **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature urges the United States  
24 Department of State to secure legal protections and humanitarian assistance for Special  
25 Immigrant Visa applicants stranded in third-party host countries, preventing forced  
26 deportations or detentions; and be it

27          **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature urges the United States  
28 Secretary of State to provide a report to Congress within 60 days after receiving this  
29 resolution, detailing efforts to reinstate evacuation flights for applicants with approved  
30 Special Immigrant Visas and their families, including efforts to overcome logistical barriers  
31 and conduct diplomatic negotiations.

1           **COPIES** of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Donald J. Trump, President  
2 of the United States; the Honorable JD Vance, Vice President of the United States and  
3 President of the U.S. Senate; the Honorable Mike Johnson, Speaker of the U.S. House of  
4 Representatives; the Honorable John Thune, Majority Leader of the U.S. Senate; the  
5 Honorable Marco Rubio, United States Secretary of State; Mara Tekach, Coordinator for  
6 Afghan Relocation Efforts; Kika Scott, Senior Official Performing the Duties of the Director  
7 of the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, U.S. Department of Homeland Security;  
8 and the Honorable Lisa Murkowski and the Honorable Dan Sullivan, U.S. Senators, and the  
9 Honorable Nicholas Begich, U.S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in  
10 Congress.