



**TO:** Republican Study Committee members  
**FROM:** Chairman Jim Banks  
**DATE:** September 15th, 2021  
**RE:** Afghan Vetting Process

## The Dems' Dangerous Open Border Plan for Afghanistan

The Biden administration has requested the House add policy riders to the government funding bill being considered later this month. Those riders include \$6.4 billion in funding for Afghan refugee resettlement and language that would give any unvetted Afghan national flown into the United States between July 31, 2021 and the end of the next fiscal year lifetime welfare and a path to citizenship. The riders also make it clear these benefits are extended to relatives. **BOTTOM LINE:** *The White House's proposed riders ([found on page 25-27 here](#)) want to open our borders to a Taliban-run nation, and conservatives will fight this continuing resolution every step of the way.*

### “Unvetted:”

President Biden's proposed language says that “an Afghan national shall hereafter be eligible for the benefits...if the Afghan national...2) successfully completed background checks and screening in accordance with the policies and procedures in place as part of Operation Allies Welcome or equivalent background checks and screening.

”There's a glaring issue: There are no policies and procedures laid out in Operation Allies Welcome. That's because it's not a real operation; [it's a DHS press release](#).

Ultimately, “vetting” will end up being what DHS Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas, the man directly overseeing the crisis at the southern border, wants it to be. We should all be concerned.

### “Lifetime welfare:”

President Biden's proposed language also says that any Afghan national paroled in the United States is “eligible for resettlement assistance, entitlement programs, and other benefits available to refugees under section 207 of the Immigration and Nationality Act.”

In other words, Afghan nationals admitted through this resettlement program will be allowed to take advantage of all existing entitlement programs such as cash welfare, food stamps, Medicaid, and public housing. And they could stay on the welfare rolls for a long time... as we'll see below.

### “A path to citizenship:”

Another section explains that the DHS Secretary can give “permanent residence” (green cards) for those Afghan nationals that have “been present in the United States for at least one year.” Green cards, of course, provide a fast track toward citizenship.

It also grants the DHS Secretary the authority to waive almost any ground for inadmissibility, so that even if an Afghan national was explicitly barred from entering our country, Mayorkas can override the rules and make them a permanent resident.

## **“Extended to relatives:”**

Yet another section of President Biden’s proposed language reveals the benefits described in previous sections can be applied to an Afghan national’s relatives: “A spouse or child...who is subsequently paroled or admitted into the United States at any point after the entry of that Afghan national shall be entitled to the same treatment described in subsections (c) and (f).”

Of course, once citizenship is attained, Afghan immigrants will be able to utilize chain migration and bring in even more distant relatives.

## **Conclusion:**

It would be mind-bending to commemorate the 20th anniversary of 9/11 by giving any unvetted Afghan national with ulterior motives who has been evacuated now or in the future ***unfettered access to the American homeland.***

The Biden administration is making the same mistake the Clinton administration did. They’re approaching the Taliban with far too much naïveté. **Just like during the withdrawal,** the Biden administration has placed the ***safety and security of American lives in the hands of the Taliban.*** This time, however, the American lives that are at risk are **right here at home.** Every American should be outraged that Joe Biden has ***allowed terrorists to threaten our national security.***

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