

104TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 3323

To promote the naturalization of eligible individuals by making the administration of oaths of allegiance more efficient, improving the dissemination of information about eligibility and requirements for naturalization, making grants for citizenship preparation, and requiring the Attorney General periodically to consult with appropriate private organizations, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 25, 1996

Mr. BECERRA (for himself, Mr. PASTOR, Mr. DIAZ-BALART, Mr. SERRANO, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. TORRES, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. RICHARDSON, Mr. MARTINEZ, Mr. BERMAN, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. FARR of California, Mr. MATSUI, Ms. WATERS, Mrs. MINK of Hawaii, Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, Mr. FILNER, Mr. TEJEDA, Mr. ORTIZ, Mr. ROMERO-BARCELÓ, Mr. DE LA GARZA, Mr. GUTIERREZ, Mr. UNDERWOOD, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. NADLER, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. McDERMOTT, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, AND Mr. WATT of North Carolina) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

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## A BILL

To promote the naturalization of eligible individuals by making the administration of oaths of allegiance more efficient, improving the dissemination of information about eligibility and requirements for naturalization, making grants for citizenship preparation, and requiring the Attorney General periodically to consult with appropriate private organizations, and for other purposes.

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 “Proud To Be an Amer-  
5 ican Citizen Act of 1996”.

6 **SEC. 2. ADMINISTRATION OF OATHS OF ALLEGIANCE.**

7       (a) NATURALIZATION AUTHORITY.—

8           (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 310(b) of the Immi-  
9 gration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1421(b)) is  
10 amended to read as follows:

11       “(b) AUTHORITY TO ADMINISTER OATHS.—

12           “(1) JURISDICTION.—

13                   “(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to section  
14 337(c), each applicant for naturalization shall  
15 have the oath of allegiance under section 337(a)  
16 administered by the Attorney General or by an  
17 eligible court that has submitted the notice de-  
18 scribed in subparagraph (B) and is conducting  
19 oath administration ceremonies pursuant to a  
20 schedule developed by the Attorney General  
21 under subparagraph (C). Such an eligible court  
22 shall have authority to administer such oath to  
23 an applicant for naturalization residing within  
24 the jurisdiction of the court during the period  
25 described in paragraph (3)(A)(i).

1           “(B) NOTIFICATION BY COURT.—An eligi-  
2 ble court that wishes to have authority to ad-  
3 minister the oath of allegiance to applicants for  
4 naturalization during a fiscal year shall notify  
5 the Attorney General of such wish not later  
6 than the first day of the 60-day period termi-  
7 nating on the last day of the preceding fiscal  
8 year.

9           “(C) DEVELOPMENT OF OATH ADMINIS-  
10 TRATION CEREMONY SCHEDULE.—For each eli-  
11 gible court that has provided notice under sub-  
12 paragraph (B) in a fiscal year, the Attorney  
13 General, in consultation with the court, shall  
14 develop, not later than the first day of the 30-  
15 day period terminating on the last day of the  
16 year, an oath administration ceremony schedule  
17 for the succeeding fiscal year that establishes,  
18 at a minimum, the following:

19                   “(i) The days during such succeeding  
20 year on which the court will schedule oath  
21 administration ceremonies.

22                   “(ii) The number of such ceremonies  
23 that the court will conduct on each such  
24 day.

1           “(iii) The total number of applicants  
2           for naturalization to whom the court will  
3           administer the oath of allegiance on each  
4           such day.

5           “(2) ASSIGNMENT OF INDIVIDUALS.—

6           “(A) ESTABLISHMENT OF EXCLUSIVE AU-  
7           THORITY.—In the case of an eligible court exer-  
8           cising authority under paragraph (1) with re-  
9           spect to applicants for naturalization residing  
10          within the jurisdiction of the court, the Attor-  
11          ney General, in accordance with procedures es-  
12          tablished by the Attorney General under sub-  
13          paragraph (C), may designate the court, at the  
14          time of the approval of such an applicant’s ap-  
15          plication for naturalization, as having exclusive  
16          authority to administer the oath of allegiance to  
17          the applicant during the period specified in  
18          paragraph (3)(A)(i).

19          “(B) INFORMATION.—In the case of a des-  
20          ignation of an eligible court under subpara-  
21          graph (A) with respect to an applicant for natu-  
22          ralization, the Attorney General—

23                  “(i) shall inform the applicant of the  
24                  court’s exclusive authority at the time of

1 the approval of the application for natu-  
2 ralization;

3 “(ii) shall determine the date, place,  
4 and time of the oath administration cere-  
5 mony at which the applicant will take the  
6 oath of allegiance and shall inform the ap-  
7 plicant of such information not later than  
8 10 days before such date;

9 “(iii) shall forward to the court not  
10 later than 10 days after the date of ap-  
11 proval of the application such information  
12 as may be necessary to administer the oath  
13 of allegiance to the applicant; and

14 “(iv) shall promptly forward to the  
15 court a certificate of naturalization (pre-  
16 pared by the Attorney General under sub-  
17 section (e)).

18 “(C) PROCEDURES FOR DESIGNATION OF  
19 COURTS.—The procedures referred to in sub-  
20 paragraph (A)—

21 “(i) shall be developed and revised  
22 jointly by the Attorney General and each  
23 eligible court that has provided notice  
24 under paragraph (1)(B) or, in a case in  
25 which more than one eligible court in an

1 area has provided notice under such para-  
2 graph with respect to applicants for natu-  
3 ralization residing within the area, by the  
4 Attorney General with all such courts col-  
5 lectively; and

6 “(ii) shall be consistent with the  
7 schedules developed by the Attorney Gen-  
8 eral under paragraph (1)(C) (and shall be  
9 revised from time to time as necessary to  
10 ensure such consistency); and

11 “(iii) shall require an eligible court  
12 that determines that it will be unable, dur-  
13 ing the period specified in paragraph  
14 (3)(A)(i), to administer the oath of alle-  
15 giance to any applicant for naturalization  
16 who is directed, or who may be directed, to  
17 the court under subparagraphs (A) and  
18 (B) to notify the Attorney General of such  
19 determination as soon as practicable.

20 “(3) SCOPE OF EXCLUSIVE AUTHORITY.—

21 “(A) LIMITED PERIOD AND ADVANCE NO-  
22 TICE REQUIRED.—The exclusive authority of an  
23 eligible court under paragraph (2) shall apply  
24 with respect to an applicant for naturaliza-  
25 tion—

1           “(i) only during the 30-day period be-  
2           ginning on the date on which the Attorney  
3           General certifies to the court that the ap-  
4           plicant is eligible for naturalization;

5           “(ii) only if the court has notified the  
6           Attorney General, prior to the date of cer-  
7           tification of eligibility, of the day or days  
8           (during such 30-day period) on which the  
9           court has scheduled oath administration  
10          ceremonies; and

11          “(iii) only if the court has not notified  
12          the Attorney General under paragraph  
13          (2)(C)(iii) that it will be unable to admin-  
14          ister the oath of allegiance to the appli-  
15          cant.

16          “(B) AUTHORITY OF ATTORNEY GEN-  
17          ERAL.—Subject to subparagraph (C), the Attor-  
18          ney General shall not administer the oath of al-  
19          legiance to an applicant for naturalization  
20          under subsection (a) during the period in which  
21          exclusive authority to administer the oath of al-  
22          legiance may be exercised by an eligible court  
23          under this subsection with respect to the appli-  
24          cant.

1           “(C) WAIVER OF EXCLUSIVE AUTHOR-  
2           ITY.—An eligible court may waive exclusive au-  
3           thority to administer the oath of allegiance to  
4           an applicant for naturalization under this sub-  
5           section if the Attorney General has not provided  
6           the court with the certification described in sub-  
7           paragraph (A)(i) within a reasonable time be-  
8           fore the date scheduled by the Attorney General  
9           for the oath administration ceremony.

10           “(4) REQUIREMENTS ON ATTORNEY GEN-  
11           ERAL.—

12           “(A) ADMINISTRATION OF OATHS.—

13           “(i) NO EXCLUSIVE AUTHORITY ES-  
14           TABLISHED.—In any case in which an eli-  
15           gible court has not been designated, at the  
16           time of the approval of an applicant’s ap-  
17           plication for naturalization, as having ex-  
18           clusive authority to administer the oath of  
19           allegiance to the applicant, the Attorney  
20           General shall administer such oath to the  
21           applicant during the 30-day period begin-  
22           ning on the date of such approval.

23           “(ii) DELAY IN EXERCISING EXCLU-  
24           SIVE AUTHORITY.—Subject to clauses (iii)  
25           and (iv), in any case in which an eligible

1 court has not administered the oath of al-  
2 legiance to an applicant for naturalization  
3 during the period in which exclusive au-  
4 thority to administer the oath of allegiance  
5 may be exercised by the court under this  
6 subsection with respect to the applicant,  
7 the Attorney General shall administer the  
8 oath to the applicant during the 30-day pe-  
9 riod beginning on the date of the termi-  
10 nation of such period of exclusive author-  
11 ity.

12 “(iii) DETERMINATION OF INABILITY  
13 TO EXERCISE AUTHORITY.—In any case in  
14 which an eligible court has notified the At-  
15 torney General under paragraph (2)(C)(iii)  
16 that it will be unable to administer the  
17 oath of allegiance to an applicant for natu-  
18 ralization during the period in which exclu-  
19 sive authority to administer the oath of al-  
20 legiance may be exercised by the court  
21 under this subsection with respect to the  
22 applicant, the Attorney General shall ad-  
23 minister the oath to the applicant during  
24 the 30-day period beginning on the date  
25 the Attorney General receives such notice.

1                   “(iv) WAIVER OF EXCLUSIVE AUTHOR-  
2                   ITY.—Upon notification of a court’s waiver  
3                   of exclusive authority under paragraph  
4                   (3)(C), the Attorney General shall prompt-  
5                   ly notify the applicant for naturalization of  
6                   the waiver and shall administer the oath of  
7                   allegiance to the applicant during the 30-  
8                   day period beginning on the date on which  
9                   the Attorney General receives notification  
10                  of the waiver.

11                  “(B) NOTICE TO APPLICANTS.—In any  
12                  case in which the Attorney General is required  
13                  to administer the oath of allegiance to an appli-  
14                  cant for naturalization under subparagraph (A),  
15                  the Attorney General shall determine the date,  
16                  place, and time for the administrative natu-  
17                  ralization and shall inform the applicant of such  
18                  information not later than 10 days before such  
19                  date.

20                  “(5) ELIGIBLE COURTS.—For purposes of this  
21                  subsection, the term “eligible court” means—

22                         “(A) a district court of the United States  
23                         in any State; or

24                         “(B) any court of record in any State hav-  
25                         ing a seal, a clerk, and jurisdiction in actions

1 in law or equity, or law and equity, in which the  
2 amount in controversy is unlimited.”.

3 (2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section  
4 339(a)(1) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8  
5 U.S.C. 1450(a)(1)) is amended by striking  
6 “310(b)(2)(A)(ii),” and inserting  
7 “310(b)(2)(B)(iv),”.

8 (b) CERTIFICATES OF NATURALIZATION.—

9 (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 310 of the Immigra-  
10 tion and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1421) is amend-  
11 ed by adding at the end the following:

12 “(e) CERTIFICATES OF NATURALIZATION.—The At-  
13 torney General shall issue a certificate of naturalization,  
14 in such form as the Attorney General may prescribe, to  
15 persons admitted to citizenship in conformity with the pro-  
16 visions of this title.”.

17 (2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The Immigra-  
18 tion and Naturalization Act is amended by striking  
19 sections 332(e) and 338.

20 (c) OATH OF RENUNCIATION AND ALLEGIANCE.—

21 (1) WAIVER OF REQUIREMENT FOR CERTAIN  
22 INDIVIDUALS WITH A DISABILITY.—Section 337(a)  
23 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C.  
24 1448(a)) is amended by adding at the end the fol-  
25 lowing:

1 “The Attorney General may waive the taking of the oath  
2 by a person if in the opinion of the Attorney General the  
3 person is unable to understand its meaning because of a  
4 physical or developmental disability or mental impair-  
5 ment.”.

6 (2) EXPEDITED OATH ADMINISTRATION.—Sec-  
7 tion 337(c) of the Immigration and Nationality Act  
8 (8 U.S.C. 1448(c)) is amended—

9 (A) by striking “grant an expedited judi-  
10 cial oath administration ceremony, a court” and  
11 inserting “grant such an expedited judicial cere-  
12 mony or administrative naturalization, the At-  
13 torney General”;

14 (B) by striking “scheduled ceremony,” and  
15 inserting “scheduled ceremony or administrative  
16 naturalization,”;

17 (C) by striking “If an expedited judicial  
18 oath administration ceremony is impracticable,”  
19 and inserting “In a case where the Attorney  
20 General has granted an expedited judicial oath  
21 administration ceremony but the court deter-  
22 mines that the ceremony is impracticable,”; and

23 (D) by striking “who may provide” and in-  
24 serting “who shall provide”.

1 (d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by  
2 this section shall take effect on October 1, 1997.

3 **SEC. 3. FUNDING FOR NATURALIZATION ACTIVITIES.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 286 of the Immigration  
5 and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1356) is amended—

6 (1) in subsection (m)—

7 (A) by striking “as offsetting receipts”;

8 and

9 (B) by striking “other immigrants.” and  
10 inserting “other immigrants and the costs of  
11 grants under section 332(i).”;

12 (2) in subsection (n)—

13 (A) by striking “to reimburse any appro-  
14 priation the amount paid out of such appropria-  
15 tion” and inserting “solely”; and

16 (B) by striking “reimbursed” and inserting  
17 “withdrawn”; and

18 (3) in subsection (o)—

19 (A) by striking “annually” and inserting  
20 “quarterly”; and

21 (B) by adding at the end the following:

22 “Such statements shall specify, to the extent practicable,  
23 the source and amount of any fee deposited into the ac-  
24 count and the purpose and amount of any withdrawal  
25 from the account.”.

1 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by  
2 this section shall take effect on October 1, 1996.

3 **SEC. 4. REQUIREMENTS AS TO UNDERSTANDING THE ENG-**  
4 **LISH LANGUAGE, HISTORY, PRINCIPLES, AND**  
5 **FORM OF GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED**  
6 **STATES.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 312 of the Immigration  
8 and Nationalization Act (8 U.S.C. 1423) is amended—

9 (1) in subsection (a)(1), by striking “language:”  
10 and all that follows through “applicant;” and insert-  
11 ing “language;”; and

12 (2) by adding at the end the following:

13 “(c) The Attorney General may establish by regula-  
14 tion standards and procedures consistent with this section  
15 relating to the means by which an applicant for naturaliza-  
16 tion may satisfy the requirements of subsection (a).

17 “(d)(1) The Attorney General shall by regulation es-  
18 tablish standards and procedures for the administration  
19 of examinations under this section by persons other than  
20 the Attorney General who are authorized to administer  
21 such examinations.

22 “(2) In promulgating regulations under paragraph  
23 (1), the Attorney General shall consult experts in linguis-  
24 tics, education, and testing.”.

1 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by  
2 this section shall take effect on October 1, 1996.

3 **SEC. 5. CITIZENSHIP PREPARATION.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 332(b) of the Immigra-  
5 tion and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1443(b)) is amended—

6 (1) by striking “is authorized to” and inserting  
7 “shall”;

8 (2) by striking “the sending of names of can-  
9 didates for naturalization to the public schools,”;  
10 and

11 (3) by striking “such candidates as are” and in-  
12 serting “candidates for naturalization who are”.

13 (b) GRANTS FOR CITIZENSHIP PREPARATION.—Sec-  
14 tion 332 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C.  
15 1443) is amended by adding at the end the following:

16 “(i)(1) The Attorney General shall make grants for  
17 citizenship preparation on a competitive basis to appro-  
18 priate community groups, private voluntary agencies, and  
19 other relevant organizations under such terms and condi-  
20 tions as the Attorney General may establish consistent  
21 with this subsection.

22 “(2) Such grants shall be made solely from deposits  
23 into the ‘Immigration Examinations Fee Account’ referred  
24 to in subsections (m), (n), and (o) of section 286.

25 “(3) The total of such grants in any fiscal year—



1 who is issued an immigrant visa or who otherwise acquires  
2 the status of an alien lawfully admitted to the United  
3 States for permanent residence with a written statement  
4 that summarizes—

5           “(1) the benefits and obligations of United  
6 States citizenship;

7           “(2) the requirements under chapter 2 of title  
8 III for such an alien to become a naturalized citizen  
9 of the United States and any facts concerning such  
10 an alien that could disqualify the alien from citizen-  
11 ship; and

12           “(3) the documents and records that the alien  
13 should collect and retain in order to assist the alien  
14 in preparing an application for naturalization when  
15 the submission of such an application is timely.”.

16           (2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of con-  
17 tents of the Immigration and Nationality Act is  
18 amended by inserting after the item relating to sec-  
19 tion 293 the following:

“Sec. 294. Distribution of information on naturalization.”.

20           (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by  
21 this section shall take effect on October 1, 1996.

22 **SEC. 7. CONSULTATION WITH CITIZENSHIP COUNCILS.**

23           (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 332 of the Immigration  
24 and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1443), as amended by sec-

1 tion 3(b)(2), is amended by adding after subsection (d)  
2 the following:

3 “(e) The Attorney General shall consult, not less than  
4 once a month during a calendar year, with appropriate  
5 community groups, private voluntary agencies, and other  
6 relevant organizations serving each district of the Service  
7 in the United States in which the number of applications  
8 for naturalization filed during the preceding fiscal year ex-  
9 ceeded 10,000, for the following purposes:

10 “(1) Planning and scheduling citizenship prepa-  
11 ration programs and activities to be carried out in  
12 the district.

13 “(2) Discussing administrative and logistical as-  
14 pects of future examinations of applicants for natu-  
15 ralization in the district, including examinations con-  
16 ducted at locations other than an office of the Attor-  
17 ney General.

18 “(3) Discussing administrative and logistical as-  
19 pects of future ceremonies in the district for the ad-  
20 ministration of oaths of allegiance under section  
21 337.

22 “(4) Planning, and evaluating the effectiveness  
23 of, efforts by the Attorney General in the district to  
24 promote citizenship preparation and to distribute to

1 the public information about the opportunities and  
2 responsibilities of citizenship.”.

3 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by  
4 this section shall take effect on October 1, 1996.

5 **SEC. 8. APPLICATIONS FOR NATURALIZATION.**

6 (a) RETURN OF DEFICIENT APPLICATIONS.—Section  
7 334 of the Immigration and Naturalization Act (8 U.S.C.  
8 1445) is amended by adding at the end the following:

9 “(g)(1) In cases where the Attorney General returns  
10 an application for naturalization to the applicant before  
11 the application is considered to be filed by the Attorney  
12 General, the returned application shall be accompanied by  
13 a written notice summarizing the reason for the return  
14 and stating the requirements that need to be met in order  
15 for the application to be resubmitted and considered as  
16 filed.

17 “(2) In cases where the Attorney General returns an  
18 application for naturalization under paragraph (1), the  
19 Attorney General shall provide by regulation for a reason-  
20 able opportunity for the applicant to resubmit the applica-  
21 tion.”.

22 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by  
23 this section shall take effect on October 1, 1996.

1 **SEC. 9. EXAMINATIONS UPON APPLICATIONS FOR NATU-**  
2 **RALIZATION.**

3 (a) WITHDRAWALS OF APPLICATIONS; FAILURES TO  
4 APPEAR FOR EXAMINATIONS.—Section 335(e) of the Im-  
5 migration and Naturalization Act (8 U.S.C. 1446(e)) is  
6 amended to read as follows:

7 “(e)(1) After an application for naturalization has  
8 been filed with the Attorney General, the applicant shall  
9 not be permitted to withdraw his application, except with  
10 the consent of the Attorney General.

11 “(2) In cases where the Attorney General does not  
12 consent to the withdrawal of the application, the applica-  
13 tion shall be determined on its merits and a final order  
14 determination made accordingly. In cases where the Attor-  
15 ney General consents to the withdrawal of the application,  
16 the Attorney General shall provide the applicant with a  
17 written notice summarizing the reason for the withdrawal  
18 and the consent and informing the applicant of the rules  
19 governing reopening of the application.

20 “(3) In cases where the Attorney General consents  
21 to the withdrawal of an application for naturalization, the  
22 Attorney General shall provide by regulation for a reason-  
23 able opportunity for the applicant to reopen the applica-  
24 tion.

25 “(4) In cases where an applicant fails to prosecute  
26 an application for naturalization, the application shall be

1 decided on the merits unless the Attorney General dis-  
2 misses it for lack of prosecution.

3       “(5) If an applicant fails to appear for an examina-  
4 tion upon an application for naturalization that is sched-  
5 uled to be conducted by an employee of the Service, the  
6 Attorney General shall close the application temporarily  
7 but may not decide the application on its merits, or dis-  
8 miss the application for failure to prosecute, before the  
9 date that is one year after the date of the scheduled exam-  
10 ination. In cases where the Attorney General closes an ap-  
11 plication under this paragraph, the Attorney General shall  
12 provide by regulation for a reasonable opportunity for the  
13 applicant to reopen the application, subject to the payment  
14 of a fee, not to exceed 15 percent of the fee imposed for  
15 filing the application, except that no fee may be imposed  
16 where the applicant provides written notice to the Attor-  
17 ney General of the reason for the non-appearance and the  
18 applicant’s request to reschedule the examination within  
19 30 days after the date of the scheduled examination. All  
20 such fees shall be deposited into the ‘Immigration Exami-  
21 nations Fee Account’ referred to in subsections (m), (n),  
22 and (o) of section 286. The Attorney General may waive  
23 the imposition of a fee under this paragraph under such  
24 circumstances as the Attorney General determines appro-  
25 priate.”.

1 (b) NOTICE OF EXAMINATION.—Section 335(b) of  
2 the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1446(b))  
3 is amended by inserting after the first sentence the follow-  
4 ing:

5 “After such an examination is scheduled, the Attorney  
6 General shall provide to the applicant, not later than 10  
7 days before the date for which the examination is sched-  
8 uled, a written notice of the date, place, and time of the  
9 examination and any documents or records that the appli-  
10 cant should bring to the examination.”.

11 (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by  
12 this section shall take effect on October 1, 1996.

13 **SEC. 10. REPORT ON STATISTICS CONCERNING APPLICA-**  
14 **TIONS FOR NATURALIZATION.**

15 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 332 of the Immigration  
16 and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1443), as amended by sec-  
17 tion 5(b), is amended by adding at the end the following:

18 “(j) Not later than 120 days after the termination  
19 of a fiscal year, the Attorney General shall submit a report  
20 to the Congress containing the following:

21 “(1) With respect to requests for withdrawal of  
22 an application for naturalization under section  
23 335(e)—

1           “(A) the number of such requests that  
2           were made, granted, and denied during the  
3           year;

4           “(B) the age, national origin, and years of  
5           residency in the United States of each applicant  
6           who made such a request during the year, and  
7           the outcome of the request, including whether  
8           or not the applicant reopened the application  
9           during the year; and

10          “(C) the reason given by the Attorney  
11          General for granting or denying consent for  
12          each such request.

13          “(2) With respect to applications for naturaliza-  
14          tion returned under section 334(g)—

15                 “(A) the number of such returns that were  
16                 made during the year;

17                 “(B) the reason for each such return; and

18                 “(C) whether or not the applicant resub-  
19                 mitted the application during the year.

20          “(3) With respect to examinations upon an ap-  
21          plication for naturalization under section 335—

22                 “(A) the percentage of such examinations  
23                 that were continued during the year to afford  
24                 the applicant an opportunity to overcome defi-  
25                 ciencies and, with respect to each such contin-

1           ued examination, the reason why the continu-  
2           ance was necessary; and

3                   “(B) the number of applicants who failed  
4           to appear during the year for such an examina-  
5           tion that was scheduled to be conducted by an  
6           employee of the Service.”

7           (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by  
8           this section shall take effect on October 1, 1996.

9   **SEC. 11. NATURALIZATION THROUGH SERVICE IN THE**  
10                   **ARMED FORCES.**

11           (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 329 of the Immigration  
12           and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1440) is amended by strik-  
13           ing “a date designated by the President by Executive  
14           order as the date of termination of the Vietnam hos-  
15           tilities,” each place such term appears and inserting “Oc-  
16           tober 15, 1978,”.

17   **SEC. 12. NATIONAL ADVISORY BOARD ON NATURALIZA-**  
18                   **TION.**

19           (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 3 of title III of the Immi-  
20           gration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1501 et seq.) is  
21           amended by adding at the end the following:

22                   “NATIONAL ADVISORY BOARD ON NATURALIZATION

23                   “SEC. 362. (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is estab-  
24           lished a board to be known as the ‘National Advisory  
25           Board on Naturalization’ (in this section referred to as  
26           the ‘Board’.

1 “(b) DUTIES.—The Board—

2 “(1) shall evaluate on an ongoing basis the im-  
3 plementation of this title by the Attorney General;

4 “(2) shall assess on an ongoing basis the ade-  
5 quacy of resources and funds available to the Attor-  
6 ney General for the implementation of this title;

7 “(3) shall prepare independent biannual reports  
8 to the President, the Congress, and the Attorney  
9 General relating to the evaluations and assessments  
10 made under paragraphs (1) and (2); and

11 “(4) otherwise shall advise the President, the  
12 Congress, and the Attorney General with respect to  
13 the implementation of this title.

14 “(c) COMPOSITION.—

15 “(1) NUMBER AND APPOINTMENT.—The Board  
16 shall be composed of 15 voting members, who shall  
17 be appointed by the Attorney General, except as oth-  
18 erwise provided, as follows:

19 “(A) Two members drawn from among in-  
20 dividuals having extensive academic experience  
21 in the study of immigration.

22 “(B) Three members drawn from among  
23 individuals having been recently naturalized, in-  
24 cluding at least two who are engaged in non-  
25 professional employment.

1           “(C) Three members drawn from among  
2 individuals having extensive recent experience in  
3 counseling and advising resident aliens to be-  
4 come naturalized citizens.

5           “(D) Three members drawn from among  
6 individuals having extensive experience in advo-  
7 cating the interests of immigrants.

8           “(E) Two members to be appointed by the  
9 Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate.

10           “(F) Two members to be appointed by the  
11 Committee on the Judiciary of the House of  
12 Representatives.

13           “(2) STAGGERED TERMS.—The members shall  
14 serve staggered terms, in a manner deemed appro-  
15 priate by the Attorney General.

16           “(3) CHAIR; VICE CHAIR.—At the first meeting  
17 of the Board each year, the members of the Board  
18 shall elect a chair and vice chair, who shall serve for  
19 a term of one year.

20           “(4) MEETINGS.—The Board shall meet a suf-  
21 ficient number of times each year to carry out its re-  
22 sponsibilities under this section.

23           “(d) ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT.—The Attor-  
24 ney General shall provide administrative support, in-

1 including staffing, to enable the Board to fulfill its  
2 functions.

3 “(e) COMPENSATION.—

4 “(1) TRAVEL EXPENSES.—While away from  
5 their homes or regular places of business in the per-  
6 formance of duties for the Board, Board members  
7 shall be allowed travel expenses, including per diem  
8 in lieu of subsistence, at rates authorized for em-  
9 ployees of agencies under subchapter I of chapter 57  
10 of title 5, United States Code.

11 “(2) PAY.—Members of the Board who are not offi-  
12 cers or employees of the United States shall be com-  
13 pensated at a rate equal to the daily equivalent of the an-  
14 nual rate of basic pay prescribed for level IV of the Execu-  
15 tive Schedule under section 5315 of title 5, United States  
16 Code, for each day (including travel time) during which  
17 the member is engaged in the actual business of the  
18 Board.

19 “(f) APPLICABILITY OF FEDERAL ADVISORY COM-  
20 MITTEE ACT.—The provisions of the Federal Advisory  
21 Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.) shall apply to the Board,  
22 except to the extent that such provisions are inconsistent  
23 with this section.”.

1 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents  
2 of the Immigration and Nationality Act is amended by in-  
3 serting after the item relating to section 361 the following:

“Sec. 362. National advisory board on naturalization.”.

4 **SEC. 13. SUPPORT OF DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Attorney General shall make  
6 available funds under this section, in each of 5 consecutive  
7 fiscal years (beginning with fiscal year 1997), to the Immi-  
8 gration and Naturalization Service or to other public or  
9 private nonprofit entities to support demonstration  
10 projects under this section at 10 sites throughout the  
11 United States. Each such project shall be designed to pro-  
12 vide for the administration of the oath of allegiance (under  
13 section 337(a) of the Immigration and Nationality Act)  
14 on a business day around the 4th of July for approxi-  
15 mately 500 people whose application for naturalization has  
16 been approved. Each project shall provide for appropriate  
17 outreach and ceremonial and celebratory activities.

18 (b) SELECTION OF SITES.—The Attorney General  
19 shall, in the Attorney General’s discretion, select diverse  
20 locations for sites on the basis of the number of natu-  
21 ralization applicants living in proximity to each site and  
22 on the degree of local community participation and sup-  
23 port in the project to be held at the site. Not more than  
24 2 sites may be located in the same State. The Attorney

1 General should consider changing the sites selected from  
2 year to year.

3 (c) AMOUNTS AVAILABLE; USE OF FUNDS.—

4 (1) AMOUNT.—The amount that may be made  
5 available under this section with respect to any sin-  
6 gle site for a site for a year shall not exceed \$5,000.

7 (2) USE.—Funds provided under this section  
8 may only be used to cover expenses incurred carry-  
9 ing out symbolic swearing-in ceremonies at the dem-  
10 onstration sites, including expenses for—

11 (A) cost of personnel of the Immigration  
12 and Naturalization Service (including travel and  
13 overtime expenses)

14 (B) local outreach,

15 (C) rental of space, and

16 (D) costs of printing appropriate brochures  
17 and other information about the ceremonies.

18 (3) AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS.—Funds in the  
19 “Immigration Examinations Fee Account” referred  
20 to in subsections (m), (n), and (o) of section 286 of  
21 the Immigration and Nationality Act may be used to  
22 carry out this section.

23 (d) APPLICATION.—In the case of an entity other  
24 than the Immigration and Naturalization Service seeking  
25 to conduct a demonstration project under this section, no

1 amounts may be made available to the entity under this  
2 section unless an appropriate application has been made  
3 to, and approved by, the Attorney General, in a form and  
4 manner specified by the Attorney General.

5 (e) STATE DEFINED.—In this section, the term  
6 “State” has the meaning given such term in section  
7 101(a)(36) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8  
8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(36)).

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