

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy  
Speaker of the House of Representatives  
2468 Rayburn House Office  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Charles Schumer  
Senate Majority Leader  
322 Hart Senate Office  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries  
Minority Leader of the House of Representatives  
2443 Rayburn Office  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Senate Minority Leader  
317 Russell Office  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Speaker McCarthy, Leader Schumer, Leader Jeffries, and Leader McConnell,

The undersigned veterans and family members of the United States military write to you today to express strong support for the Afghan Adjustment Act (S.2327 and HR 4627) and strong opposition to the Ensuring American Security and Protecting Afghan Allies Act (S.2324).

**Pass the Afghan Adjustment Act.** The Afghan Adjustment Act would provide a pathway to permanent residency for Afghans who have been granted humanitarian parole in the United States and creates pathways for continued relocation for those who've been left behind.

America's veterans served with Afghans for two decades in Afghanistan. We fought side-by-side with them, and we saw firsthand their courage and dedication. They risked their lives to help us and made significant contributions to our mission.

When the Taliban took control of Afghanistan in 2021, many of our Afghan allies were left behind. Since then, veterans have been carrying the burden while Congress has delayed providing meaningful relief to this ongoing crisis. The Afghan Adjustment Act would provide our Afghan allies with a safe haven in the United States, where they can rebuild their lives and continue to contribute to our country.

We call on Congress to pass legislation that would allow Afghan parolees who are being evacuated from Afghanistan to have an opportunity to seek lawful permanent residence in the United States.

Under the Afghan Adjustment Act, eligible Afghans in need of protection would undergo the vetting required during the adjustment application process and have their status adjusted so they could rebuild their lives in the relative safety and stability of the United States.

Specifically, the Afghan Adjustment Act would:

- Allow Afghans on temporary humanitarian status in the U.S. who submit to additional security vetting and in-person interviews to apply for permanent lawful status.

- Establish an Interagency Task Force, led by the U.S. Department of State, responsible for creating and implementing a strategy to continue the relocation and resettlement of eligible Afghans over the next ten years.
- As long as there is no operational embassy in Afghanistan, require the U.S. Department of State to implement an office to review visa applications and provide other consular services for Afghans.
- Require the U.S. Department of State to respond to Congressional inquiries related to SIV applications or U.S. Refugee Admissions Program (USRAP) referrals.
- Expand SIV eligibility for Afghans who worked and served alongside U.S. forces, including members of the Afghan National Army Special Operations Command, the Afghan Air Force, the Female Tactical Teams of Afghanistan, and the Special Mission Wing of Afghanistan.

**Oppose the Ensuring American Security and Protecting Afghan Allies Act.** We urge you to not support S.2324. Its introduction betrays America's veterans by undercutting our efforts over the last two years. Specifically, S.2324 does not adequately support those left behind or meaningfully expand the SIV program. It instead focuses on unrelated issues regarding the Southwest border. This is not the proper venue for large-scale immigration reform – our focus must now be on protecting our Afghan allies. These allies have been waiting years for Congress to do its duty and honor America's promise to Afghanistan; they should not be used as pawns in a political debate on immigration.

We urge you to support the Afghan Adjustment Act as soon as possible. We promised to stand by our allies who, often at risk to themselves and their families, served in uniform or publicly defend women's and democratic rights. The U.S. government made a similar promise; keeping it assures that the American commitments will be honored.

Sincerely,

The American Legion  
Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America  
Student Veterans of America  
#AfghanEvac  
American Counterterrorism Targeting and Resilience Institute (ACTRI)  
Association of Wartime Allies  
Black Veterans Project  
Blue Star Families  
CommonDefense.us  
Evocati Public Relations  
Honor the Promise  
Military Child Education Coalition  
Military Family Advisory Network (MFAN)  
Military Veterans in Journalism

Minority Veterans of America  
No One Left Behind  
Objective Zero Foundation  
Quincy Institute for Responsible Statecraft  
Reveille Foundation  
Secure Families Initiative  
Service Women's Action Network  
Soldiers' Angels  
The Lamia Afghan Foundation  
Union Veterans Council, AFL-CIO  
United Soldiers and Sailors of America - USASOA  
Vet Voice Foundation  
Veteran Esquire Legal Solutions, PLLC  
Veterans in Global Leadership  
Vets4Afghans  
VoteVets