

1 State of Arkansas  
2 85th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2005  
4

*As Engrossed: S3/7/05*

SCR 9

5 By: Representatives Anderson, Kenney  
6 By: *Education Committee - Senate*  
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9 **SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

10 ENCOURAGING CONGRESS AND THE PRESIDENT TO CREATE  
11 AN EXPEDITED NATURALIZATION PROCESS FOR  
12 UNDOCUMENTED MINORS WHEN THE MINORS REACH THE AGE  
13 OF MAJORITY AND TO EXEMPT THE MINORS FROM  
14 PROSECUTION WHEN THE MINORS COME FORWARD FOR  
15 NATURALIZATION AT THE AGE OF MAJORITY.  
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17 **Subtitle**

18 ENCOURAGING CONGRESS AND THE PRESIDENT  
19 TO CREATE AN EXPEDITED NATURALIZATION  
20 PROCESS FOR UNDOCUMENTED MINORS AND TO  
21 EXEMPT THE MINORS FROM PROSECUTION WHEN  
22 THE MINORS COME FORWARD FOR  
23 NATURALIZATION.  
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25  
26 WHEREAS, Arkansas has a large population of immigrants; and  
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28 WHEREAS, most immigrants who come to Arkansas are pursuing the American  
29 dream and are willing to work hard to get ahead; and  
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31 WHEREAS, immigrants can stabilize shrinking populations, facilitate  
32 economic growth, revitalize neighborhoods, replenish work forces, and  
33 increase property values; and  
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35 WHEREAS, immigration can be the key to a state's, city's, or town's  
36 growth and prosperity; and



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2 WHEREAS, more education is needed to raise the level of informed  
3 awareness about immigration among both the general public and policymakers;  
4 and

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6 WHEREAS, the public should help immigrants successfully integrate into  
7 their adopted communities; and

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9 WHEREAS, minors of undocumented immigrants who are in this country are  
10 here by virtue of their parents or family members moving to this country and  
11 lack the ability to pursue naturalization; and

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13 WHEREAS, it is good public policy to protect and help the people of our  
14 state; and

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16 WHEREAS, it is good public policy to help minors achieve their goals  
17 and to successfully become participating Americans, both in society and in  
18 the work place; and

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20 WHEREAS, Congress, with the support of the President, should create an  
21 expedited naturalization process for undocumented minors when they reach the  
22 age of majority and have a high school diploma or the equivalent from a  
23 United States high school and have lived in the United States for at least  
24 five (5) years; and

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26 WHEREAS, Congress, with the support of the President, should create a  
27 process that shields undocumented minors from prosecution when they come  
28 forward for naturalization at the age of majority, and have a high school  
29 diploma or equivalent from a United States high school and have lived in the  
30 United States for at least five (5) years,

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32 NOW THEREFORE,

33 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE EIGHTY-FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE  
34 STATE OF ARKANSAS, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN:

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36 THAT the Senate of the State of Arkansas encourages Congress and the

1 President to create an expedited naturalization process for undocumented  
2 minors who have a high school diploma or equivalent from a United States high  
3 school and have lived in the United States for at least five (5) years when  
4 the minors reach the age of majority and to exempt the minors from  
5 prosecution when the minors come forward for naturalization at the age of  
6 majority.

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that upon adoption of this resolution, the  
Secretary of the Senate of the State of Arkansas shall transmit a copy to  
Congress and to the President of the United States.

*/s/ Bisbee*