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State of Minnesota HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-SECOND SESSION

H. F. No. 4332

03/17/2022 Authored by Davids The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Rules and Legislative Administration

1.1 A resolution
1.2 urging the President of the United States and the United States Congress to enact
1.3 legislation securing the citizenship of internationally adopted adult individuals.
1.4 WHEREAS, since the close of World War II over 350,000 children have been adopted from
1.5 abroad by United States citizen parents; and
1.6 WHEREAS, the Child Citizenship Act of 2000, passed by the 106th Congress, aimed to
1.7 provide equal treatment under United States law for adopted and biological children by granting
1.8 citizenship for internationally born adoptees; and
1.9 WHEREAS, the Child Citizenship Act of 2000 did not apply to international adoptees who
1.10 were over the age of 18 when the act became law; and
1.11 WHEREAS, tens of thousands of legally adopted individuals born before February 27, 1983,
1.12 and raised in the United States or who did not enter on an "orphan visa" do not have United States
1.13 citizenship and therefore are potentially subject to deportation; and
1.14 WHEREAS, these adoptees' parents did not complete the necessary processes to provide
1.15 their adopted children with citizenship or, in many cases, even a green card; and
1.16 WHEREAS, the deportation of legally adopted individuals has occurred, breaking up families
1.17 and returning these individuals to places where they do not know the language or culture or have
1.18 any known family members; and
1.19 WHEREAS, the individuals who do not have citizenship were adopted from various countries,
1.20 including Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Germany, Guatemala, El Salvador, India,
1.21 Ireland, Haiti, Iran, Japan, Mexico, Panama, the Philippines, Russia, Ukraine, and Vietnam; and
1.22 WHEREAS, two bills which would have granted citizenship to certain adult adoptees were
1.23 introduced with bipartisan support in the 115th Congress: the Adoptee Citizenship Act of 2018 (S.

2.1 2522) and the Adoptee Citizenship Act of 2018 (H.R. 5233). Neither bill was referred out of
2.2 committee for a Congressional vote; and

2.3 WHEREAS, both bills sought to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to grant automatic
2.4 citizenship to all qualifying children adopted by a United States citizen parent, regardless of the
2.5 date on which the adoption was finalized or the date of the entrance visa; and

2.6 WHEREAS, citizenship would be granted to any individual who was adopted by a United
2.7 States citizen before age 18, was physically present in the United States in the citizen parent's legal
2.8 custody pursuant to lawful admission before the individual reached age 18, had never previously
2.9 acquired United States citizenship, and was lawfully residing in the United States; and

2.10 WHEREAS, major cities such as Seattle, Los Angeles, Houston, and Philadelphia have
2.11 already passed resolutions in support of adoptee citizenship, as has the state of California; and

2.12 WHEREAS, citizenship is a civil right of all children adopted by a United States citizen
2.13 parent; and

2.14 WHEREAS, children adopted by United States citizen parents should have the same rights
2.15 as children of United States citizens; and

2.16 WHEREAS, this civil right should be protected by legislation that provides automatic
2.17 citizenship for all adult adoptees whose adoptive parents did not complete the naturalization process
2.18 while they were children; NOW, THEREFORE,

2.19 BE IT RESOLVED by the Legislature of the State of Minnesota that it urges the President
2.20 and the Congress of the United States to enact legislation securing the citizenship of internationally
2.21 adopted adult individuals.

2.22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of State of the State of Minnesota is directed
2.23 to prepare copies of this memorial and transmit them to the President of the United States, the
2.24 President and the Secretary of the United States Senate, the Speaker and the Clerk of the United
2.25 States House of Representatives, the chair of the Senate Committee on the Judiciary, the chair of
2.26 the House Committee on the Judiciary, and Minnesota's Senators and Representatives in Congress.