

OPPOSE H.R. 4038 – “American SAFE Act of 2015” (McCaul-Hudson)

- H.R. 4038 is a ***political response*** to the Syrian crisis intended to prey on people's fears about refugees; it is ***not a practical approach*** and it will not make America safer.
- The multi-layered system the U.S. uses to vet refugees is robust and continually strengthened in response to information from our security and intelligence officials; there is no legitimate reason for upending the current process.
- Existing, enhanced security measures implemented over the last decade in response to the admission of Iraqi refugees have been effective at fighting fraud and ensuring security.
- H.R. 4038 replaces the existing, multi-layered refugee vetting process developed by our security and intelligence professionals with one so onerous that its true purpose can only be to ***slow or even halt refugee admissions*** from Syria and Iraq.
- Though House Leadership bypassed regular order to hastily bring H.R. 4038, it has no chance of becoming law. President Obama issued a veto threat.

SUPPORT – “Secure Refugee Process Act of 2015” (Thompson-Lofgren)

- The “Secure Refugee Process Act of 2015” is pro-security and pro-compassion.
- It will require the Secretary of Homeland Security to ***verify the identity*** of ***ALL*** refugee applicants. Any application that contains insufficient, conflicting, or unreliable information will be denied.
- This bill requires at least ***five Federal agencies*** - the Department of Homeland Security, the Attorney General and the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Secretary of State, the Secretary of Defense, the Director of National Intelligence – to ***check each individual refugee application*** against their security and intelligence records. Any application that indicates a national security or criminal threat will be denied.
- The bill also requires the Secretary of Homeland Security to certify that the all relevant Federal immigration laws have been complied with and that the applicant has not been already been resettled.
- It rejects H.R. 4038’s duplicative certification requirements - impossibly high standards – that would slow, if not stop, admission of desperate refugees. Refugees from Iraq and Syria already undergo a far more rigorous and time-consuming vetting process than anyone else seeking admission to the United States.
- The “Secure Refugee Process Act of 2015” would ensure the U.S. continues to maintain the most extensive interagency security screening process in the world to vet all people who seek safe harbor in our great nation.