

HR 2265--Responsibility to Iraqi Refugees Act of 2007 Fact Sheet

- Sets up a program to allow 15,000 Iraqis (and their families) who are at risk because they helped us in Iraq to enter the U.S. for each of the next four years (known as special immigrant status).
- Requires the establishment of processing facilities in Iraq where Iraqis can apply for refugee or special immigrant status.
- Establishes a Special Coordinator for Iraqi Refugees and Internally Displaced Persons at the U.S. Embassy in Baghdad.
- Requires the Secretary of State to provide assistance to Iraqi refugees and displaced persons in Iraq and neighboring countries, such as Jordan and Syria.
- Requires the GAO to assess the adequacy and effectiveness of programs to protect and assist Iraqi refugees.
- Increases the number of Iraqis who can enter the U.S. as refugees by 20,000 with priority given to persecuted religious, ethnic, and minority groups, female-headed household and unaccompanied children, and Iraqis with family members in the United States.
- Creates a duress exception to material support inadmissibility provisions and allows the Secretary of State to waive such provisions.
- Authorizes additional funds to assist Iraqis in the region and process refugee and special immigrant admission.