

**The original documents are located in Box 25, folder “5/23/75 HR6755 Indochina Migration and Refugee Assistance Act of 1975” of the White House Records Office: Legislation Case Files at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.**

### **Copyright Notice**

The copyright law of the United States (Title 17, United States Code) governs the making of photocopies or other reproductions of copyrighted material. Gerald R. Ford donated to the United States of America his copyrights in all of his unpublished writings in National Archives collections. Works prepared by U.S. Government employees as part of their official duties are in the public domain. The copyrights to materials written by other individuals or organizations are presumed to remain with them. If you think any of the information displayed in the PDF is subject to a valid copyright claim, please contact the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

Exact duplicates within this folder were not digitized.

---

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

Don

These two enrolled  
bills should be  
signed on Sat. AM

JRF



**APPROVED**  
**MAY 23 1975**

THE WHITE HOUSE

ACTION

WASHINGTON

Last Day: June 3

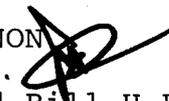
May 23, 1975

*Posted 5/24*  
*To DIRECTOR*  
*5/27*

MEMORANDUM FOR

THE PRESIDENT

FROM:

JIM CANNON 

SUBJECT:

Enrolled Bill H.R. 6755  
Indochina Migration and  
Refugee Assistance Act of 1975

Attached for your consideration is H.R. 6755, sponsored by Representative Rodino, which authorizes appropriations of not to exceed \$455 million for assistance to refugees from Cambodia or Vietnam and requires submission of certain reports to the Congress.

A discussion of the features of the bill is provided in OMB's enrolled bill report at Tab A.

OMB, Max Friedersdorf, NSC, Phil Buchen (Lazarus) and I recommend approval of the enrolled bill.

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign H.R. 6755 at Tab B.



APPROVED



MAY 23 1975

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

MAY 23 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

Subject: Enrolled Bill H.R. 6755 - Indochina Migration and  
Refugee Assistance Act of 1975  
Sponsor - Rep. Rodino (D) New Jersey

Last Day for Action

June 3, 1975 - Tuesday



Purpose

Authorizes appropriations of not to exceed \$455 million for assistance to refugees from Cambodia or Vietnam and requires certain reports to the Congress.

Agency Recommendations

Office of Management and Budget	Approval
Department of State	Approval (Informally)
Department of Health, Education and Welfare	Approval (Informally)
Agency for International Development	Approval (Informally)
National Security Council	Approval (Informally)
Department of Defense	Approval (Informally)
Department of Justice	Approval (Informally)

Discussion

The enrolled bill authorizes a ceiling of \$455 million on the amount which may be appropriated for assistance to refugees from Cambodia and Vietnam in lieu of your request for appropriations authorization of "such sums as may be necessary" for such purposes. The amount in the bill is \$52 million less than the Administration's estimate of the \$507 million that would be required but \$50 million above the \$405 million contained in the separate, enrolled appropriations bill which is before you for action.

As requested, H.R. 6755 provides that authorization of appropriations for refugee assistance within the United States, such as welfare and related assistance, shall remain available until September 30, 1977, while authorization for other activities, such as transportation of refugees to the United States, would expire on June 30, 1976. This reflects the expectation that, by the end of fiscal year 1976, the refugees will be resettled but that there will be a continuing need for a period of time for welfare and related assistance.

It should be noted that the \$405 million provided in the appropriations bill for Vietnam and Cambodia refugee assistance would be available only through June 30, 1976. Depending upon the unfolding requirements for welfare and related assistance programs, it may be necessary to seek additional appropriations beyond June 30, 1976, or to seek an extension of availability of funds already appropriated.

H.R. 6755 also contains certain, unrequested, reporting requirements, which, although burdensome, are not highly objectionable, including:

- a requirement that the President consult with and keep the Judiciary and Appropriations Committees of both Houses and the Senate Foreign Relations and House International Relations Committees fully and currently informed of the use of funds and the exercise of functions authorized in the bill
- a requirement for a report to the above committees by the President within 30 days of enactment, and at 90 day intervals thereafter until December 31, 1977, on the status of refugees including a plan for their resettlement in the U.S., or in the case of those so requesting, their resettlement in a third country or return to their homeland, and initiatives made to the office of U.N. High Commissioner for refugees.



Such report would also have to describe steps taken by the President to retrieve, for deposit in the Treasury as miscellaneous receipts, funds previously authorized and appropriated for assistance to South Vietnam and Cambodia but not expended, exclusive of Indochina Postwar Reconstruction funds used for the movement and maintenance of refugees prior to the date of enactment of this bill.

*James M. Frey*

Assistant Director for  
Legislative Reference

Enclosures



THE WHITE HOUSE

ACTION MEMORANDUM

WASHINGTON

LOG NO.:

Date: May 23

Time: 1030am

FOR ACTION: ~~NSC/S~~  
Max Friedersdorf  
Ken Lazarus

cc (for information): Jim Cavanaugh  
Jack Marsh

FROM THE STAFF SECRETARY

DUE: Date: May 23

Time: 300pm

SUBJECT:

H.R. 6755 - Indochina Migration and Refugee  
Assistance Act of 1975

ACTION REQUESTED:

For Necessary Action

For Your Recommendations

Prepare Agenda and Brief

Draft Reply

For Your Comments

Draft Remarks

REMARKS:

Please return to Judy Johnston, Ground Floor West Wing



PLEASE ATTACH THIS COPY TO MATERIAL SUBMITTED.

If you have any questions or if you anticipate a delay in submitting the required material, please telephone the Staff Secretary immediately.

K. R. COLE, JR.  
For the President

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

May 23, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: JIM CAVANAUGH  
FROM: MAX L. FRIEDERSDORF *M.O.*  
SUBJECT: Action Memorandum - Log No.  
H.R. 6755 - Indochina Migration and Refugee  
Assistance Act of 1975

The Office of Legislative Affairs concurs with the agencies  
that the subject bill be signed.

Attachments



THE WHITE HOUSE

ACTION MEMORANDUM

WASHINGTON

LOG NO.:

Date: May 23

Time: 1030am

FOR ACTION:

Max Friedersdorf  
Ken Lazarus

cc (for information):

Jim Cavanaugh  
Jack Marsh

FROM THE STAFF SECRETARY

DUE: Date:

May 23

Time:

300pm

SUBJECT:

H.R. 6755 - Indochina Migration and Refugee  
Assistance Act of 1975

ACTION REQUESTED:

For Necessary Action

For Your Recommendations

Prepare Agenda and Brief

Draft Reply

For Your Comments

Draft Remarks

REMARKS:

Please return to Judy Johnston, Ground Floor West Wing

No comment. -- Ken Lazarus 5/23/75



PLEASE ATTACH THIS COPY TO MATERIAL SUBMITTED.

If you have any questions or if you anticipate a delay in submitting the required material, please telephone the Staff Secretary immediately.

James H. Cavanaugh  
Staff Secretary to the President



# Ninety-fourth Congress of the United States of America

AT THE FIRST SESSION

*Begun and held at the City of Washington on Tuesday, the fourteenth day of January,  
one thousand nine hundred and seventy-five*

## An Act

To enable the United States to render assistance to, or in behalf of, certain migrants and refugees.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That this Act may be cited as "The Indochina Migration and Refugee Assistance Act of 1975".*

SEC. 2. (a) Subject to the provisions of subsection (b) there are hereby authorized to be appropriated, in addition to amounts otherwise available for such purposes, \$455,000,000 for the performance of functions set forth in the Migration and Refugee Assistance Act of 1962 (76 Stat. 121), as amended, with respect to aliens who have fled from Cambodia or Vietnam, such sums to remain available in accordance with the provisions of subsection (b) of this section.

(b) None of the funds authorized to be appropriated by this Act shall be available for the performance of functions after June 30, 1976, other than for carrying out the provisions of clauses (3), (4), (5), and (6) of section 2(b) of the Migration and Refugee Assistance Act of 1962, as amended. None of such funds shall be available for obligation for any purpose after September 30, 1977.

SEC. 3. In carrying out functions utilizing the funds made available under this Act, the term "refugee" as defined in section 2(b)(3) of the Migration and Refugee Assistance Act of 1962, as amended, shall be deemed to include aliens who (A) because of persecution or fear of persecution on account of race, religion, or political opinion, fled from Cambodia or Vietnam; (B) cannot return there because of fear of persecution on account of race, religion, or political opinion; and (C) are in urgent need of assistance for the essentials of life.

SEC. 4. (a) The President shall consult with and keep the Committees on the Judiciary, Appropriations, and International Relations of the House of Representatives and the Committees on Foreign Relations, Appropriations and Judiciary of the Senate fully and currently informed of the use of funds and the exercise of functions authorized in this Act.

(b) Not more than thirty days after the date of enactment of this Act, the President shall transmit to such Committees a report describing fully and completely the status of refugees from Cambodia and South Vietnam. Such report shall set forth, in addition—

(1) a plan for the resettlement of those refugees remaining in receiving or staging centers;

(2) the number of refugees who have indicated an interest in returning to their homeland or being resettled in a third country, together with (A) a description of the plan for their return or resettlement and the steps taken to carry out such return or resettlement, and (B) any initiatives that have been made with respect to the Office of the High Commissioner for Refugees of the United Nations; and

(3) a full and complete description of the steps the President has taken to retrieve and deposit in the Treasury as miscellaneous receipts all amounts previously authorized and appropriated for assistance to South Vietnam and Cambodia but not expended for such purpose, exclusive of the \$98,000,000 of Indochina Postwar Reconstruction funds allocated to the Department of State for movement and maintenance of refugees prior to the date of enactment of this Act.





H. R. 6755-2

(c) Supplementary reports setting forth recent information with respect to each of the items referred to in this section shall be transmitted not more than ninety days after the date of transmittal of the report referred to in subsection (b) of this section and not later than the end of each ninety-day period thereafter. Such reports shall continue until September 30, 1977, and a final report shall be submitted no later than December 31, 1977.

*Speaker of the House of Representatives.*

*Vice President of the United States and  
President of the Senate.*

May 22, 1975

Dear Mr. Director:

The following bill was received at the White House on May 22nd:

H.R. 6755

Please let the President have reports and recommendations as to the approval of this bill as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

Robert D. Linder  
Chief Executive Clerk

The Honorable James T. Lynn  
Director  
Office of Management and Budget  
Washington, D. C.

