

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 10274

To prohibit any limitation on the entry of a Member of Congress to any facility for the detention of aliens, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 3, 2024

Mr. CROW (for himself and Mr. RUTHERFORD) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Homeland Security, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To prohibit any limitation on the entry of a Member of Congress to any facility for the detention of aliens, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Public Oversight of
5 Detention Centers Act of 2024” or as the “POD Act of
6 2024”.

1 **SEC. 2. CONGRESSIONAL OVERSIGHT OF DETENTION FA-**
2 **CILITIES.**

3 (a) PROHIBITION ON LIMITATIONS ON OVERSIGHT
4 OF DETENTION FACILITIES.—Chapter 4 of title II of the
5 Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. et seq.) is
6 amended by adding at the end the following:

7 **“SEC. 244A. PROHIBITION ON LIMITATIONS ON OVERSIGHT**
8 **OF DETENTION FACILITIES.**

9 “(a) IN GENERAL.—A covered person may not be
10 prevented from entering immediately, or, in the case of
11 a person described in subsection (c)(2) by not later than
12 24 hours after making a request to do so, for the purpose
13 of conducting oversight, any facility operated by or for the
14 Department of Homeland Security (including any facility
15 operated by a private contractor with the Department)
16 used to detain or otherwise house aliens, or nor may any
17 temporary modification be made at any such facility that
18 in any way alters what is observed by a visiting Member
19 of Congress, compared to what would be observed in the
20 absence of such modification.

21 “(b) FACILITIES HOUSING ALIEN MINORS.—A cov-
22 ered person may not be prevented from entering by not
23 later than two business days after making a request to
24 do so, for the purpose of conducting oversight, any facility
25 operated by or for the Department of Homeland Security
26 or the Department of Health and Human Services (includ-

1 ing any facility operated by a private contractor with ei-
 2 ther Department) used to detain or otherwise house alien
 3 minors, or to make any temporary modification at any
 4 such facility that in any way alters what is observed by
 5 a visiting Member of Congress, compared to what would
 6 be observed in the absence of such modification.

7 “(c) COVERED PERSON.—For purposes of this sec-
 8 tion, the term ‘covered person’ means the following:

9 “(1) A Member of Congress.

10 “(2) An employee of the House of Representa-
 11 tives or the Senate designated by such a Member for
 12 purposes of this section.”.

13 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents
 14 for such Act is amended by inserting after the item relat-
 15 ing to section 244 the following:

“244A. Prohibition on limitations on oversight of detention facilities.”.

