

AMENDMENT TO H.R. 2431  
OFFERED BY Ms. JACKSON LEE OF TEXAS (#2)

Page 184, after line 3, add the following new section:

**SEC. 617. SECURE ALTERNATIVES PROGRAM.**

(a) **IN GENERAL.**-The Secretary of Homeland Security shall establish a Secure Alternatives Program to make humane and cost-effective care and alternatives to detention available to detained aliens who are placed in expedited removal proceedings under section 235 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1225). The Secure Alternatives Program will be based on the best practices of the Appearance Assistance Program developed by the VERA Institute and the Department of Homeland Security's own Intensive Supervision Appearance Program. The Secure Alternatives Program will be designed and administered by non-governmental organizations with relevant expertise.

(b) **PROGRAM OPERATION.**-The Secure Alternatives Program will utilize alternative to detention programs to safeguard against the needless and costly detention of vulnerable aliens in harsh or substandard prison conditions. Specifically, the program will employ a continuum of alternatives to meet the alien's need for supervision, including placement with an individual or organizational sponsor, a supervised group home, or in a supervised, non-penal community setting. The Secure Alternatives Program will be made available to a host of vulnerable classes including parents with their children, aliens with serious medical or mental health needs, mentally retarded or autistic individuals, pregnant women, the elderly, and victims of trafficking or criminal operations, who have been determined by the Department not be a flight risk or a danger to the community. The Program will be designed in accordance with tested methods that have proven successful to obtain voluntary compliance with the Immigration and Nationality Act, including removal.