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OR

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**AMENDMENT TO H.R. 2278**

**OFFERED BY MS. JACKSON LEE OF TEXAS**

Fail  
voice  
vote

Page 174, after line 21, add the following:

1 **SEC. 607. SECURE ALTERNATIVES PROGRAM.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Homeland Secu-  
3 rity shall establish a Secure Alternatives Program to make  
4 humane and cost-effective care and alternatives to deten-  
5 tion available to detained aliens who are placed in expe-  
6 dited removal proceedings under section 235 of the Immi-  
7 gration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1225). The Secure  
8 Alternatives Program will be based on the best practices  
9 of the Appearance Assistance Program developed by the  
10 VERA Institute and the Department of Homeland Secu-  
11 rity's own Intensive Supervision Appearance Program.  
12 The Secure Alternatives Program will be designed and ad-  
13 ministered by non-governmental organizations with rel-  
14 evant expertise.

15 (b) PROGRAM OPERATION.—The Secure Alternatives  
16 Program will utilize alternative to detention programs to  
17 safeguard against the needless and costly detention of vul-  
18 nerable aliens in harsh or substandard prison conditions.  
19 Specifically, the program will employ a continuum of alter-  
20 natives to meet the alien's need for supervision, including

1 placement with an individual or organizational sponsor, a  
2 supervised group home, or in a supervised, non-penal com-  
3 munity setting. The Secure Alternatives Program will be  
4 made available to a host of vulnerable classes including  
5 parents with their children, aliens with serious medical or  
6 mental health needs, mentally retarded or autistic individ-  
7 uals, pregnant women, the elderly, and victims of traf-  
8 ficking or criminal operations, who have been determined  
9 by the Department not be a flight risk or a danger to  
10 the community. The Program will be designed in accord-  
11 ance with tested methods that have proven successful to  
12 obtain voluntary compliance with the Immigration and  
13 Nationality Act, including removal.

