

109TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2513

To amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to prescribe the oath or affirmation of renunciation and allegiance required to be naturalized as a citizen of the United States.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 19, 2005

Mr. RYUN of Kansas (for himself and Mr. FEENEY) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to prescribe the oath or affirmation of renunciation and allegiance required to be naturalized as a citizen of the United States.

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. OATH OR AFFIRMATION OF RENUNCIATION**

4 **AND ALLEGIANCE.**

5 (a) REVISION OF OATH.—Section 337 of the Immi-

6 gration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1448) is amend-

7 ed—

1 (1) in subsection (a) by striking “under section
2 310(b) an oath” in the first sentence and all that
3 follows through the end of the third sentence and in-
4 serting “under section 310(b) the oath (or affirma-
5 tion) of allegiance prescribed in subsection (e).”; and

6 (2) by adding at the end the following new sub-
7 section:

8 “(e)(1) Subject to paragraphs (2) and (3), the oath
9 (or affirmation) of allegiance is as follows: ‘I take this oath
10 solemnly, freely, and without any mental reservation. I en-
11 tirely renounce all allegiance to any foreign state or power
12 of which I have been a subject or citizen. My fidelity and
13 allegiance from this day forward are to the United States
14 of America. I will bear true faith and allegiance to the
15 Constitution and laws of the United States, and will sup-
16 port and defend them against all enemies, foreign and do-
17 mestic. I will bear arms, or perform noncombatant mili-
18 tary or civilian service, on behalf of the United States
19 when required by law. This I do solemnly swear, so help
20 me God.’.

21 “(2) If a person by reason of religious training and
22 belief (or individual interpretation thereof), or for other
23 reasons of good conscience, cannot take the oath pre-
24 scribed in paragraph (1) with the term ‘oath’ or ‘so help

1 me God' included, the person shall take the oath in a
2 modified form as follows:

3 “(A) In the case that the person cannot take
4 the oath with the term ‘oath’ included, the term ‘af-
5 firmation’ shall be substituted for the term ‘oath’.

6 “(B) In the case that the person cannot take
7 the oath with ‘so help me God’ included, then ‘so
8 help me God’ shall be omitted.

9 “(3) If a person shows by clear and convincing evi-
10 dence to the satisfaction of the Attorney General that such
11 person, by reason of religious training and belief, cannot
12 take the oath prescribed in paragraph (1) with the affir-
13 mation to bear arms or perform noncombatant military
14 service, the person shall take the oath in a modified form
15 as follows:

16 “(A) In the case that such person is opposed to
17 the bearing of arms in the Armed Forces of the
18 United States, then ‘bear arms, or’ shall be omitted.

19 “(B) In the case that such person is opposed to
20 any type of service in the Armed Forces of the
21 United States, then ‘bear arms, or’ and ‘noncombat-
22 ant military or’ shall be omitted.

23 “(4) For purposes of this subsection, the term ‘reli-
24 gious training and belief’ means a belief of an individual
25 in relation to a Supreme Being involving duties superior

1 to those arising from any human relation, but does not
2 include essentially political, sociological, or philosophical
3 views or a merely personal moral code.

4 “(5) Any reference in this title to ‘oath’ or ‘oath of
5 allegiance’ under this section or subsection (a) shall be
6 deemed to refer to the oath (or affirmation) of allegiance
7 prescribed under this subsection.”.

8 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
9 subsection (a) shall take effect on the date that is six
10 months after the date of the enactment of this Act.

