



# Board of Commissioners of Cook County

118 North Clark Street  
Chicago, IL

## Legislation Text

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### REPORT

**Department:** Cook County Commission on Human Rights

**Report Title:** Needs of Afghan Refugees and Asylum Seekers in Cook County

**Report Period:** January 2022

**Summary:** On August 30, 2021, the United States (U.S.) military ended a nearly 20-year occupation of Afghanistan. The war ultimately ended in a collapse of the Afghan government and an overtaking of the government by the Taliban. Due to the catastrophic violence and bloodshed resulting from the U.S. withdrawal and bombings at the Kabul airport, Afghan refugees and asylum seekers have fled their country, home, and families and require resettlement in other countries. According to reports, the U.S. federal government is preparing to welcome 50,000 Afghan refugees into the U.S. in the next year, with at least 1,500 expected to resettle in Cook County. Through resolution, the Cook County Board of Commissioners called a hearing to obtain recommendations as to how Cook County and the greater community can marshal its resources to support Afghan refugees. The Cook County Commission on Human Rights compiled this report summarizing the hearing.