

**The original documents are located in Box 43, folder “4/16/76 S832 Relief of Kristen Marisal Kneebone” of the White House Records Office: Legislation Case Files at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.**

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*7M*  
**APPROVED**

**APR 16 1976**

*8/16/76*

THE WHITE HOUSE

ACTION

WASHINGTON

Last Day: April 19

April 14, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR

THE PRESIDENT

FROM:

JIM CANNON *[Signature]*

SUBJECT:

S. 832 - Relief of Kristen Marisol Kneebone

Attached for your consideration is S. 832, sponsored by Senator Moss, which would permit issuance of an immigrant visa to Kristen Marisol Kneebone, the adopted alien daughter of U.S. citizens. She was unable to acquire an immigrant visa because current law limits the issuance of such visas for alien orphan children to two per adopting parents and her parents have already adopted two children.

Additional information is provided in OMB's enrolled bill report at Tab A.

OMB, Max Friedersdorf, Counsel's Office (Lazarus), NSC and I recommend approval of the enrolled bill.

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign S. 832 at Tab B.

*Noted  
4/17/76  
Go Archive  
4/19/76*





EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

APR 13 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

Subject: Enrolled Bill S. 832 - Relief of Kristen Marisol  
Kneebone  
Sponsor - Sen. Moss (D) Utah

Last Day for Action

April 19, 1976 - Monday

Purpose

To permit issuance of an immigrant visa to the adopted alien daughter of U.S. citizens.

Agency Recommendations

Office of Management and Budget	Approval
Immigration and Naturalization Service	Approval
Department of State	No objection

Discussion

The beneficiary is a 4-year old Colombian orphan who was adopted in Colombia on May 20, 1972 by Mr. and Mrs. Terrence H. Kneebone, both U.S. citizens, when Mr. Kneebone, a Foreign Service Officer with the United States Information Agency, was stationed in Colombia.

While in Colombia, Mr. and Mrs. Kneebone had also adopted two other Colombian orphans; the first child has been naturalized as a U.S. citizen and the second has permanent resident alien status.



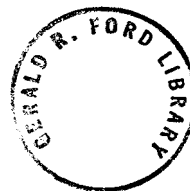
Kristen entered the United States on a temporary visa with her adopted family on June 21, 1974. However, unlike her adopted brother and sister, who were granted immigrant visas as adopted children of Mr. and Mrs. Kneebone, Kristen was unable to acquire an immigrant visa because current law limits the issuance of such visas for alien orphan children to two per adopting parents. Her visitors visa expired on June 21, 1975; however deportation proceedings have not been instituted by the Immigration and Naturalization Service.

The enrolled bill would permit the issuance of an immigrant visa to Kristen upon approval of an immediate relative child petition filed in her behalf by Mr. and Mrs. Kneebone. Without this legislation, Kristen is ineligible to obtain an immigrant visa in the United States and would be both required to apply for a visa outside this country and subject to the numerical limitation for immigrants from the Western Hemisphere.

*James M. Frey*

Assistant Director  
for Legislative Reference

Enclosures



• THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

Bob Linder:

Pls see attached.

jj

*Johnston*

April 13, 1976

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Thank you for your April 7 letter concerning S. 832, a private bill you introduced to allow Kristen Marisol Kneebone to qualify for immediate relative status.

I have noted your request that this bill be signed and also your desire for a ceremonial signing pen to present to the Kneebone family. You will hear further as soon as possible.

With kind regards,

Sincerely,

William T. Kendall  
Deputy Assistant  
to the President

The Honorable Frank E. Moss  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

bcc: w/inc to Judy Berg-Hansen for handling of pen request  
~~bcc: w/inc to James Cannon - FYI~~  
bcc: w/inc to Alan Krasowitz, OMB - FYI  
MTK:JEB:kir



FRANK E. MOSS  
UTAH

## United States Senate

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

April 7, 1976

### COMMITTEES:

AGING  
BUDGET  
COMMERCE  
POST OFFICE AND CIVIL SERVICE  
AERONAUTICAL AND SPACE SCIENCES  
(EX OFFICIO)  
APPROPRIATIONS  
NATIONAL FUELS AND ENERGY POLICY STUDY  
SECRETARY, DEMOCRATIC CONFERENCE

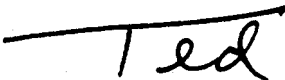
Mr. William T. Kendall  
Deputy Assistant to the President  
Legislative Affairs  
The White House  
Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear Bill:

Yesterday the House of Representatives passed S. 832, a private bill I introduced for Kristen Marisol Kneebone, a young Colombian girl adopted by Terry and Judy Kneebone of Reston, Virginia. The purpose of my bill is to allow the girl to qualify for immediate relative status.

I hope the President will be able to approve this measure. If he does, I would be most appreciative if you would save the pen he uses to sign the bill so I can present it to the family as a momento for their daughter.

Sincerely,



Frank E. Moss  
United States Senator

FEM:mh



DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington, D.C. 20520

APR 8 1976

Dear Mr. Lynn:

Reference is made to Mr. Frey's communication of April 7, 1976, transmitting for comment enrolled bill S. 832, "For the relief of Kristen Marisol Kneebone".

This Department's files contain no information identifiable with the above-cited alien, and in the absence of any derogatory information, this Department has no objection to the enactment of this bill.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert J. McCloskey".

Robert J. McCloskey  
Assistant Secretary for  
Congressional Relations

The Honorable  
James T. Lynn,  
Director,  
Office of Management and Budget.





UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION SERVICE  
Washington 25, D.C.

PLEASE ADDRESS REPLY TO

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

APR 8 1976

AND REFER TO THIS FILE NO.

A20 638 634

TO : OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET

SUBJECT: Enrolled Private Bill No. S. 832; Office of Management  
and Budget request dated April 7, 1976.

Beneficiary or Beneficiaries Kristen Marisol Kneebone.

Pursuant to your request for the views of the Department of Justice on the subject bill, a review has been made of the facsimile of the bill, the relating Congressional Committee report or reports, and all pertinent information in the files of the Immigration and Naturalization Service.

On the basis of this review the Immigration and Naturalization Service, on behalf of the Department of Justice:

- Recommends approval of the bill.
- Interposes no objection to approval of the bill

Sincerely,

  
Commissioner

THE WHITE HOUSE

ACTION MEMORANDUM

WASHINGTON

LOG NO.:

Date: April 13

Time: 530pm

FOR ACTION: Dick Parsons *sa* cc (for information): Jack Marsh  
 NSC/S *sh* Jim Cavanaugh  
 Max Friedersdoff *th* Ed Schmults  
 Ken Lazarus *on*

FROM THE STAFF SECRETARY

DUE: Date: April 14

Time: 300pm

SUBJECT:

S. 832 - Relief of Kristen Marisol Kneebone

ACTION REQUESTED:

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> For Necessary Action         | <input type="checkbox"/> For Your Recommendations |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prepare Agenda and Brief     | <input type="checkbox"/> Draft Reply              |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> For Your Comments | <input type="checkbox"/> Draft Remarks            |

REMARKS:

Please return to Judy Johnston, Ground Floor West Wing

*Cannon 4/14 4630pm*  
*Cannon 4/16 1000am*



PLEASE ATTACH THIS COPY TO MATERIAL SUBMITTED.

If you have any questions or if you anticipate a delay in submitting the required material, please telephone the Staff Secretary immediately.

K. R. COLE, JR.  
For the President

## THE WHITE HOUSE

ACTION MEMORANDUM

WASHINGTON

LOG NO.:

Date: April 13

Time: 530pm

FOR ACTION: Dick Parsons ✓  
 NSC/S  
 Max Friedersdorf  
 Ken Lazarus

cc (for information): Jack Marsh  
 Jim Cavanaugh  
 Ed Schmults

FROM THE STAFF SECRETARY

DUE: Date: April 14

Time: 300pm

SUBJECT:

S. 832 - Relief of Kristen Marisol Kneebone

## ACTION REQUESTED:

 For Necessary Action For Your Recommendations Prepare Agenda and Brief Draft Reply For Your Comments Draft Remarks

REMARKS:

*Recommend Approval. RDP*  
 Please return to Judy Johnston, Ground Floor West Wing

PLEASE ATTACH THIS COPY TO MATERIAL SUBMITTED.

If you have any questions or if you anticipate a delay in submitting the required material, please telephone the Staff Secretary immediately.

James M. Cannon  
 For the President

Date: April 13

Time: 530pm

FOR ACTION: Dick Parsons  
 NSC/S  
 Max Friedersdorf  
 Ken Lazarus ✓

cc (for information): Jack Marsh  
 Jim Cavanaugh  
 Ed Schmults

FROM THE STAFF SECRETARY

DUE: Date: April 14

Time: 300pm

SUBJECT:

S. 832 - Relief of Kristen Marisol Kneebone

## ACTION REQUESTED:

 For Necessary Action For Your Recommendations Prepare Agenda and Brief Draft Reply For Your Comments Draft Remarks

## REMARKS:

Please return to Judy Johnston, Ground Floor West Wing

No objection -- Ken Lazarus 4/14/76

PLEASE ATTACH THIS COPY TO MATERIAL SUBMITTED.

If you have any questions or if you anticipate a delay in submitting the required material, please telephone the Staff Secretary immediately.

James M. Cannon  
 For the President

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

April 14, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: JAMES CANNON

FROM: Jeanne W. Dav 

SUBJECT: S. 832

The NSC Staff concurs in the proposed Enrolled Bill S. 832 -  
Relief of Kristen Marisol Kneebone.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

April 14, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: JIM CAVANAUGH  
FROM: MAX L. FRIEDERSDORF *MLF*  
SUBJECT: S. 832 - Relief of Kristen Marisol Kneebone

The Office of Legislative Affairs concurs with the agencies  
that the subject bill be signed.

Attachments

KRISTEN MARISOL KNEEBONE

---

MARCH 16, 1976.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House and ordered to be printed.

---

Mr. EILBERG, from the Committee on the Judiciary, submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany S. 832]

The Committee on the Judiciary, to whom was referred the bill (S. 832) for the relief of Kristen Marisol Kneebone, having considered the same, report favorably thereon without amendment and recommend that the bill do pass.

PURPOSE OF THE BILL

The purpose of this bill is to facilitate the adjustment of status of the adopted child of citizens of the United States.

GENERAL INFORMATION

The beneficiary of this bill is a 4-year-old native and citizen of Colombia who was adopted on May 20, 1972. She entered the United States with her adoptive parents on June 21, 1974. The adoptive parents have two other adopted children, one who is now a U.S. citizen and the other a permanent resident. The family resides in Reston, Va.

A letter, with attached memorandum, dated July 1, 1975 to the chairman of the Senate Committee on the Judiciary from the Commissioner of Immigration and Naturalization with reference to the bill reads as follows:

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE,  
IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION SERVICE,  
*Washington, D.C., July 1, 1975.*

HON. JAMES O. EASTLAND,  
*Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary,*  
*U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: In response to your request for a report relative to the bill (S. 832) for the relief of Kristen Marisol Kneebone, there is attached a memorandum of information concerning the beneficiary.

The bill provides that for immigration purposes the beneficiary, who has been adopted by United States citizens, may be classified as a child and granted immediate relative status upon approval of a petition filed by the adoptive parents, notwithstanding the fact that they have previously filed and had approved petitions in behalf of other alien children. It also provides that the beneficiary's natural siblings shall derive no immigration benefits by virtue of such relationship. The Committee may wish to change "his" to "her" on line 6 of the bill.

The beneficiary, a native of Colombia, is chargeable to the numerical limitation for immigrants from the Western Hemisphere. She is statutorily ineligible to adjust her status while in the United States and will be required to apply for a visa outside of this country.

Sincerely,

L. F. CHAPMAN, Jr.,  
*Commissioner.*

Enclosure.

MEMORANDUM OF INFORMATION FROM IMMIGRATION AND  
NATURALIZATION SERVICE FILES RE S. 832

Information concerning this case was obtained from Mr. and Mrs. Terrence Kneebone, the adoptive parents and interested parties.

The beneficiary, a female child, Kristen Marisol Kneebone was born October 15, 1971 in Bucaramanga, Columbia. She was adopted from the Casa de la Madre y el Nino Orphanage in Bogotá on May 20, 1972. Her natural parents are unknown. She entered the United States with her adoptive parents on June 21, 1974 as a visitor for pleasure and was authorized to remain in that status until June 21, 1975. Deportation proceedings have not been instituted.

Mr. Terrence Holmes Kneebone was born May 1, 1942 in a Japanese prisoner of war camp in the Philippines, where his father and mother were interned until 1945. He derived United States citizenship through his father. His mother remains a citizen of Canada.

He attended school in the Philippines and after coming to this country earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree from Whitman College, Walla Walla, Washington. He then completed three years of graduate study at the University of Utah at Salt Lake City. He has been employed as a Foreign Service Officer with the United States Information Agency since June 1967, at a salary of \$21,367 per annum.

Mrs. Judy Lee Kneebone was born June 19, 1945 in Salt Lake City, Utah. She attended school in that State and also Whitman College where she met her husband. They returned to Utah and were married in 1964.

The interested parties have resided in Reston, Virginia since they returned from their foreign posts at Bogota, Colombia and Lima, Peru. While in Colombia two children

were born to them, but both died shortly after birth. Mrs. Kneebone could not have any more children so they adopted a son, Brett Joseph Kneebone, born July 15, 1968 in Colombia who is now a United States citizen; and a daughter, Barbara Kneebone, born October 28, 1971 in Colombia who is now a permanent resident alien. Both children were admitted to the United States as immediate relatives.

The interested parties will remain in the United States for three years prior to assignment abroad and are leasing a home during this period. They report assets of \$13,000 consisting of personal property and savings.

Senator Frank E. Moss, the author of the bill, has submitted the following information in connection with the case:

U.S. SENATE,  
*Washington, D.C., July 22, 1975.*

HON. JAMES O. EASTLAND,  
*Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary,*  
*U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you for your letter of the 7th concerning S. 832, the private immigration bill for the relief of Kristen Marisol Kneebone.

I am enclosing a letter sent to me by this little girl's mother, Mrs. Judy Kneebone. It tells how the Kneebones first learned about Kristen Marisol and their efforts to keep the family intact. It is a very touching story and I strongly urge that the Committee act favorably on the measure.

Sincerely,

FRANK E. MOSS,  
*U.S. Senator.*

RESTON, VA., *July 18, 1975.*

HON. FRANK E. MOSS,  
*U.S. Senate,*  
*Washington, D.C.*

DEAR SENATOR: Reference is made to S. 932, your private immigration bill for the relief of Kristen Marisol Kneebone. With that formal introduction, I will informally tell you of how she came to be our daughter.

In February of 1968, my husband, Terry Kneebone, and I went to Bogotá, Columbia, in South America. Terry was assigned there as a Foreign Service Information Officer working for the United States Information Agency. In July of that year, I gave birth to our first child who died 36 hours later. In November of that year, we adopted our son, Brett Kneebone, through La Casa de la Madre y el Niño. (A private orphanage in Bogotá with a very high standard of child placement, which handles many inter-country adoptions. The Director of La Casa is Maria Lopez Michelsen, whose brother Alfonso Lopez Michelsen, is the current president of Colombia.)



Following a second very complicated pregnancy and the death of our second daughter in September, 1969, we decided that our future children would all be adopted. Perhaps it isn't necessary to say that "our" children are every bit as much ours as if they had been grown in my body instead of in our hearts. Parenthood is that process of loving and raising children, not the physical act of conception and birth. A serious medical problem, resulting in surgery in April, 1970, removed any possibility of my having "natural" children. We were transferred to Lima, Peru, in May of 1970.

In February of 1972, after learning that we could not adopt under Peruvian law, we wrote to La Casa in Bogotá requesting that they find us a little girl to adopt. We had been told by the American Vice-Consul in Lima of the regulation limiting parents to two immediate relative status visas for children adopted in Latin America when we petitioned for an immigrant visa for our son. Since we were planning to adopt only one other child, we were not concerned about this. In May of 1972, I flew to Bogotá with my husband's power of attorney, to pick up our daughter.

"Marisol" had been born in a convent in Bucaramanga, Colombia, on October 15, 1971. Her "natural" mother had arrived at the convent in labor. The "father" of the child was unknown. The woman died giving birth. The twenty-eight nuns in the convent wanted to keep the child and raise her there. After considering that the child would be better off in a loving home, and after having been told by La Casa that a family had been found for her, the nuns sent Marisol to Bogotá. I arrived the day after she did, and proceeded to sign the papers. I named her Kristen Marisol Kneebone, retaining her Colombian name and adding our preference. Kristen was a very extroverted, happy, healthy child of seven and a half months of age. Aside from a correctable dysentery problem, my pediatrician pronounced her in excellent health, both physically and mentally.

At that time, the matron entered the room with a second little girl, approximately seven months of age. She had been found abandoned on the doorstep of La Casa several days earlier. A scrawled paper found with her said she had been born on October 28, 1971. She was suffering from a calcium deficiency, pneumonitis, dysentery, and the chicken pox. The pediatrician pronounced her mentally fit, and in need of medical attention for her physical problems and "a great deal of love and affection from a loving mother and father." She was our "Barbara."

Intellectually-made plans of one little girl suddenly became null and void. There were two little girls; each one with her own appeal, each needing love and a family, each irresistible in her own right. After a long distance telephone conference, in which my husband said ". . . bring my daughters home," I signed both papers and walked out with Kristen and Barbara in my arms.

There followed eleven very busy days in Bogotá. The lawyer and I did the necessary paperwork to attain Colombian visas and passports for the children; and a doctor, nurse and I worked on the physical problems of the children. We returned to Lima in mid-June of 1972.

The adoptions were final in August of 1972: Kristen and Barbara became legally at that time what they had been emotionally for several months. They were our daughters.

It was then that we were faced with the regulation limiting us to only two visas with an immediate relative classification, one of which had already been used for our son. The Vice-Consul of Lima told us of the long wait for an immigrant visa through the regular channels of the quota system. He suggested the possibility of a private immigration bill, while at the same time applying for a regular visa through the quota system channels. In late May of 1974, no progress had been made on this application. The Vice-Consul had been transferred to another post and no record could be found of the application. At that time, my husband received orders for a Washington assignment. It was winter in Lima and very damp and cold. Our son had asthma problems and I was hospitalized twice in two months with severe pneumonia. We decided to leave Lima quickly and return to a drier summer in the United States. We petitioned for an immediate relative immigrant visa for Barbara and got it, and got a B-2 tourist visa for Kristen. (There was no reason for the choice, we just did it that way. We could just as easily have done it the other way and would then be asking for a private bill for Barbara.) We felt that a private bill might be the only solution to our problem.

The children and I arrived in the United States in June of 1974. We spent the summer in Utah. We were joined by my husband in August and came to Washington in September. We settled in Reston, Virginia. We will be here until September of 1977 when Terry will again receive an overseas assignment. The children are all well and happy now. Kristen has had no health problems in the past three years.

If this private bill passes, we will then be able to take Kristen out of the country (to Canada or Mexico) and petition for an immigrant visa under immediate relative status. She can then return to the United States and under the law become a U.S. citizen. If the bill passes, it would allow us to live as a close family unit with our children. The alternative is a little frightening. If the bill fails to pass, Kristen would be in the United States illegally, even though she is the legally adopted and deeply loved daughter of two U.S. citizens. She would face the possibility of deportation. What could be done if this three-and-a-half-year-old child were deported? Where would she go and to whom? Even if we were to all go overseas at that time (taking Kristen on her Colombian passport); she would be unable, under the law, to return with us to the United States later for vacations or to live because she would have violated her status previously. I guess there really isn't an alternative.

Your concern for this case, and your help with this bill is greatly appreciated. We hope the committee will pass your private bill for Kristen. Thank you.

Sincerely,

JUDY KNEEBONE.

**BUDGETARY INFORMATION**

This legislation does not provide new budget authority and no estimate or comparison has been received from the Director of the Congressional Budget Office.

**OVERSIGHT STATEMENT**

The Committee exercises general oversight jurisdiction with respect to all immigration and nationality matters but no specific oversight is contemplated in this instance.

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION**

Upon consideration of all the facts in this case, the Committee is of the opinion that S. 832 should be enacted and accordingly recommends that the bill do pass.

○

94TH CONGRESS SENATE REPORT 94-388

KRISTEN MARISOL KNEEBONE

SEPTEMBER 25 (legislative day, SEPTEMBER 12), 1975.—Ordered to be printed.

Mr. EASTLAND, from the Committee on the Judiciary, submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany S. 832]

The Committee on the Judiciary, to which was referred the bill (S. 832) for the relief of Kristen Marisol Kneebone, having considered the same, reports favorably thereon with an amendment and recommends that the bill, as amended, do pass.

AMENDMENTS

- 1. On page 1, line 6, change the word "his" to read "her".
2. On page 1, line 11, following the words "shall not apply", delete the period and insert the following language: "and the provisions of section 245(c) of the Act shall be inapplicable in this case."

PURPOSE OF THE BILL

The purpose of the bill, as amended, is to facilitate the adjustment of status and an immediate relative of the adopted alien child of citizens of the United States. The bill has been amended in accordance with established precedents.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

The beneficiary of the bill is a 3-year-old native and citizen of Colombia, South America, who was adopted on May 20, 1972. She entered the United States with her adoptive parents on June 21, 1974. The adoptive parents have two other adopted children, one who is now a U.S. citizen and the other a permanent resident. The family resides in Reston, Va.

A letter, with attached memorandum, dated July 1, 1975 to the chairman of the Senate Committee on the Judiciary from the Commissioner of Immigration and Naturalization with reference to the bill reads as follows:

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE,  
IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION SERVICE,  
Washington, D.C., July 1, 1975.

HON. JAMES O. EASTLAND,  
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary,  
U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: In response to your request for a report relative to the bill (S. 832) for the relief of Kristen Marisol Kneebone, there is attached a memorandum of information concerning the beneficiary.

The bill provides that for immigration purposes the beneficiary, who has been adopted by United States citizens, may be classified as a child and granted immediate relative status upon approval of a petition filed by the adoptive parents, notwithstanding the fact that they have previously filed and had approved petitions in behalf of other alien children. It also provides that the beneficiary's natural siblings shall derive no immigration benefits by virtue of such relationship. The Committee may wish to change "his" to "her" on line 6 of the bill.

The beneficiary, a native of Colombia, is chargeable to the numerical limitation for immigrants from the Western Hemisphere. She is statutorily ineligible to adjust her status while in the United States and will be required to apply for a visa outside of this country.

Sincerely,

L. F. CHAPMAN, Jr.,  
Commissioner.

Enclosure.

MEMORANDUM OF INFORMATION FROM IMMIGRATION AND  
NATURALIZATION SERVICE FILES RE S. 832

Information concerning this case was obtained from Mr. and Mrs. Terrence Kneebone, the adoptive parents and interested parties.

The beneficiary, a female child, Kristen Marisol Kneebone was born October 15, 1971 in Bucaramanga, Colombia. She was adopted from the Casa de la Madre y el Niño Orphanage in Bogotá on May 20, 1972. Her natural parents are unknown. She entered the United States with her adoptive parents on June 21, 1974 as a visitor for pleasure and was authorized to remain in that status until June 21, 1975. Deportation proceedings have not been instituted.

Mr. Terrence Holmes Kneebone was born May 1, 1942 in a Japanese prisoner of war camp in the Philippines, where his father and mother were interned until 1945. He derived United States citizenship through his father. His mother remains a citizen of Canada.

He attended school in the Philippines and after coming to this country earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree from Whitman College, Walla Walla, Washington. He then completed three years of graduate study at the University of Utah at Salt Lake City. He has been employed as a Foreign Service Officer with the United States Information Agency since June 1967, at a salary of \$21,367 per annum.

Mrs. Judy Lee Kneebone was born June 10, 1945 in Salt Lake City, Utah. She attended school in that State and also Whitman College where she met her husband. They returned to Utah and were married in 1964.

The interested parties have resided in Reston, Virginia since they returned from their foreign posts at Bogotá, Colombia and Lima, Peru. While in Colombia two children were born to them, but both died shortly after birth. Mrs. Kneebone could not have any more children so they adopted a son, Brett Joseph Kneebone, born July 15, 1968 in Colombia who is now a United States citizen; and a daughter, Barbara Kneebone, born October 28, 1971 in Colombia who is now a permanent resident alien. Both children were admitted to the United States as immediate relatives.

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Washington, D.C., July 22, 1975.

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Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary,  
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DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you for your letter of the 7th concerning S. 832, the private immigration bill for the relief of Kristen Marisol Kneebone.

I am enclosing a letter sent to me by this little girl's mother, Mrs. Judy Kneebone. It tells how the Kneebones first learned about Kristen Marisol and their efforts to keep the family intact. It is a very touching story and I strongly urge that the Committee act favorably on the measure.

Sincerely,

FRANK E. MOSS,  
U.S. Senator.

RESTON, VA., July 18, 1975.

HON. FRANK E. MOSS,  
U.S. Senate,  
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DEAR SENATOR: Reference is made to S. 832, your private immigration bill for the relief of Kristen Marisol Kneebone. With that formal introduction, I will informally tell you of how she came to be our daughter.

In February of 1968, my husband, Terry Kneebone, and I went to Bogotá, Colombia, in South America. Terry was assigned there as a Foreign Service Information Officer working for the United States Information Agency. In July of that year, I gave birth to our first child who died 36 hours later. In November of that year, we adopted our son, Brett Kneebone, through La Casa de la Madre y el Niño. (A private orphanage in Bogotá with a very high standard of child placement, which handles many inter-country adoptions. The Director of La Casa is Maria Lopez Michelsen, whose brother Alfonso Lopez Michelsen, is the current president of Colombia.)

Following a second very complicated pregnancy and the death of our second daughter in September, 1969, we decided that our future children would all be adopted. Perhaps it isn't necessary to say that "our" children are every bit as much ours as if they had been grown in my body instead of in our hearts. Parenthood is that process of loving and raising children, not the physical act of conception and birth. A serious medical problem, resulting in surgery in April, 1970, removed any possibility of my having "natural" children. We were transferred to Lima, Peru, in May of 1970.

In February of 1972, after learning that we could not adopt under Peruvian law, we wrote to La Casa in Bogotá requesting that they find us a little girl to adopt. We had been told by the American Vice-Consul in Lima of the regulation limiting parents to two immediate relative status visas for children adopted in Latin America when we petitioned for an immigrant visa for our son. Since we were planning to adopt only one other child, we were not concerned about this. In May of 1972, I flew to Bogotá with my husband's power of attorney, to pick up our daughter.

"Marisol" had been born in a convent in Bucaramanga, Colombia, on October 15, 1971. Her "natural" mother had arrived at the convent in labor. The "father" of the child was unknown. The woman died giving birth. The twenty-eight nuns in the convent wanted to keep the child and raise her there. After considering that the child would be better off in a loving home, and after having been told by La Casa that a family had been found for her, the nuns sent Marisol to Bogotá. I arrived the day after she did, and proceeded to sign the papers. I named her Kristen Marisol Kneebone, retaining her Colombian name and adding our preference. Kristen was a very extroverted, happy, healthy child of seven and a half months of age. Aside from a correctable dysentery problem, my pediatrician pronounced her in excellent health, both physically and mentally.

At that time, the matron entered the room with a second little girl, approximately seven months of age. She had been found abandoned on the doorstep of La Casa several days earlier. A scrawled paper found with her said she had been born on October 28, 1971. She was suffering from a calcium deficiency, pneumonitis, dysentery, and the chicken pox. The pediatrician pronounced her mentally fit, and in need of medical attention for her physical problems and "a great deal of love and affection from a loving mother and father." She was our "Barbara."

Intellectually-made plans of one little girl suddenly became null and void. There were two little girls; each one with her own appeal, each needing love and a family, each irresistible in her own right.

After a long distance telephone conference, in which my husband said ". . . bring my daughters home," I signed both papers and walked out with Kristen and Barbara in my arms.

There followed eleven very busy days in Bogotá. The lawyer and I did the necessary paperwork to attain Colombian visas and passports for the children; and a doctor, nurse and I worked on the physical problems of the children. We returned to Lima in mid-June of 1972. The adoptions were final in August of 1972: Kristen and Barbara became legally at that time what they had been emotionally for several months. They were our daughters.

It was then that we were faced with the regulation limiting us to only two visas with an immediate relative classification, one of which had already been used for our son. The Vice-Consul of Lima told us of the long wait for an immigrant visa through the regular channels of the quota system. He suggested the possibility of a private immigration bill, while at the same time applying for a regular visa through the quota system channels. In late May of 1974, no progress had been made on this application. The Vice-Consul had been transferred to another post and no record could be found of the application. At that time, my husband received orders for a Washington assignment. It was winter in Lima and very damp and cold. Our son had asthma problems and I was hospitalized twice in two months with severe pneumonia. We decided to leave Lima quickly and return to a drier summer in the United States. We petitioned for an immediate relative immigrant visa for Barbara and got it, and got a B-2 tourist visa for Kristen. (There was no reason for the choice, we just did it that way. We could just as easily have done it the other way and would then be asking for a private bill for Barbara.) We felt that a private bill might be the only solution to our problem.

The children and I arrived in the United States in June of 1974. We spent the summer in Utah. We were joined by my husband in August and came to Washington in September. We settled in Reston, Virginia. We will be here until September of 1977 when Terry will again receive an overseas assignment. The children are all well and happy now. Kristen has had no health problems in the past three years.

If this private bill passes, we will then be able to take Kristen out of the country (to Canada or Mexico) and petition for an immigrant visa under immediate relative status. She can then return to the United States and under the law become a U.S. citizen. If the bill passes, it would allow us to live as a close family unit with our children. The alternative is a little frightening. If the bill fails to pass, Kristen would be in the United States illegally, even though she is the legally adopted and deeply loved daughter of two U.S. citizens. She would face the possibility of deportation. What could be done if this three-and-a-half-year-old child were deported? Where would she go and to whom? Even if we were to all go overseas at that time (taking Kristen on her Colombian passport); she would be unable, under the law, to return with us to the United States later for vacations or to live because she would have violated her status previously. I guess there really isn't an alternative.

Your concern for this case, and your help with this bill is greatly appreciated. We hope the committee will pass your private bill for Kristen. Thank you.

Sincerely,

JUDY KNEEBONE.

The committee, after consideration of all the facts in the case, is of the opinion that the bill (S. 832), as amended, should be enacted.



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# Ninety-fourth Congress of the United States of America

AT THE SECOND SESSION

*Begun and held at the City of Washington on Monday, the nineteenth day of January,  
one thousand nine hundred and seventy-six*

## An Act

For the relief of Kristen Marisol Kneebone.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That, in the administration of the Immigration and Nationality Act, Kristen Marisol Kneebone shall be classified as a child, within the meaning of section 101(b)(1)(F) of that Act, upon approval of a petition filed on her behalf by Terrence Holmes Kneebone and Judy Lee Kneebone, citizens of the United States, pursuant to section 204 of that Act, except that section 204(c) of that Act, relating to the number of petitions which may be approved on behalf of children, shall not apply and the provisions of section 245(c) of the Act shall be inapplicable in this case. The brothers and sisters of the said Kristen Marisol Kneebone shall not, by virtue of that relationship, be accorded any right, privilege, or status under the Immigration and Nationality Act.*

*Speaker of the House of Representatives.*

*Vice President of the United States and  
President of the Senate.*

April 7, 1976

Dear Mr. Director:

The following bills were received at the White House on April 7th:

- ✓ S. 719
- ✓ S. 720
- ✓ S. 721
- ✓ S. 804
- ✓ S. 832
- ✓ S. 2308
- ✓ S. 3108

Please let the President have reports and recommendations as to the approval of these bills as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

Robert D. Linder  
Chief Executive Clerk



The Honorable James T. Lynn  
Director  
Office of Management and Budget  
Washington, D. C.

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