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SENATOR ERDMAN: As I understand this process then, the student applies for the naturalization process, and as I have the requirements in front of me from the U.S. Code, you have to file the application, you have to be...you have to have resided continuously after being lawfully admitted for permanent residence within the United States for at least five years, and during the five years immediately preceding the filing of the date be physically present for at least half that time. That's the first provision. The argument or the provision of the bill says that they have to begin the process of naturalization. As I read the process of naturalization, when they file the application they have to have stated that they have resided continuously after being lawfully admitted for permanent residence. Is there another statute...because...and I hope I'm not...I'm just seeking to understand. I hope I'm not catching you off-guard. If you begin the process, and the first process is in order to begin the application you have to have resided here legally, you'll never get to naturalization unless there's a change in federal law to make you a legal citizen. Now, I know that there are work visas and other opportunities, but I'm seeking clarification on your bill. Is naturalization the same process that's outlined in U.S. Code...8 U.S. Code 1427?

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Yes. And, Senator, you know that things are in flux right now in Washington, D.C., so...

SENATOR ERDMAN: I do know that.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: ...it's hard to speculate what is going to happen. The only thing this bill requires is that student begin the process at the earliest possible opportunity. So if they're...

SENATOR ERDMAN: Is that...

SENATOR SCHIMEK: ...not eligible yet, of course, they can't really go through the citizenship process. Do you see what I'm saying? And I am not...I am not well-versed in the immigration law itself to know what all those provisions are.

SENATOR ERDMAN: (Laugh) And thankfully, or unfortunately,