

NSB - 1002

A BILL

To

Provide for uniform rules, procedures and regulations for the acquisition and loss of Soundlandian citizenship, including naturalization, and the granting of powers for citizenship affairs, as well as other such connected matters, to the Department of State.

Introduced
January 3, 2026

By Senator Aidan Kraft

Be it enacted by the National Senate of the Republic of Soundland,

Short Title:

This Act shall be cited as the “Citizenship Act”.

Section 1: Intent

The intent of this act is to set uniform and fair requirements, rules, procedures and regulations for the acquisition and loss of citizenship including naturalization, and to codify already existing departmental regulations covering such topics and to vest certain responsibilities and authorities regarding naturalization and citizenship affairs upon the Department of State as well as to provide for other matters regarding Soundlandian citizenship.

Section 2: Definitions

In this Act:

- (a) “Citizen” means a person who has been born with Soundlandian citizenship, or been naturalized by the Republic of Soundland, under the conditions of this act.
- (b) “Citizenship” means the status of being a citizen of the Republic of Soundland, granted by birth or naturalization under the conditions of this act.

(c)“Permanent Resident” means any person who:

- (1) entered the Republic of Soundland through legal means and has taken up legal residence in the territory of Republic of Soundland or were legally residing within a territory at the time of its annexation by the Republic of Soundland; and
- (2) has:
 - (a) continuously lived within the territory of the Republic of Soundland for not less than three months; or
 - (b) legally and permanently resided within an annexed territory at the time of annexation and has continued to do so for period not less than three weeks; and
- (3) has not left the territory of the Republic of Soundland for a continuous period of more than fourteen months or has not since registered as a permanent resident of a locality outside the Republic of Soundland.

(d) “National” means a person who possesses the nationality of the Republic of Soundland.

- (1) an individual is a national but not a citizen of the Republic of Soundland when the individual holds Soundlandian citizenship by birth, or would be considered stateless without Soundlandian nationality and their citizenship has been renounced or rescinded.

(e) “Foreign national” means a person who does not hold Soundlandian citizenship or nationality and is not a permanent resident.

- (1) for the purposes of this act, a person born on a registered vessel shall be considered to have been born in the nation that the vessel was registered in, provided that in cases where the vessel was registered in another nation and the Republic of Soundland, the vessel shall be considered to have been registered in the Republic of Soundland.

(f) “Naturalization” means the conferring of Soundlandian nationality and citizenship upon a foreign national or permanent resident.

Section 3: The Department of State

- (a) The Department of State shall be responsible for the citizenship affairs of the Republic of Soundland, including naturalization, citizenship by birth, renunciation and loss of citizenship, the certification of such.
- (b) The responsibilities, powers and duties of the Department of State relating to citizenship affairs may be provided and governed further by other acts of the National Senate.

Section 4: Acquisition of Citizenship by Naturalization

- (a) The Department of State shall be responsible for naturalization. The Secretary of State, as well as any official of the Department of State as designated by the Secretary of State, is hereby authorized to grant Soundlandian citizenship upon their discretion, in accordance with this act.
- (b) Subject to subsection (d), individuals who are not citizens of the Republic of Soundland may submit an application to become naturalized if they have been recommended for citizenship to the Department of State through the means provided by the department for such purposes.
 - (a) Permanent residents of the Republic of Soundland may apply to be naturalized without a letter of recommendation.
 - (b) Persons convicted of treason, sedition, violating someone's basic rights as set by the constitution, or committing a crime against humanity or of war shall not be able to recommend someone for citizenship.
- (c) Upon the naturalization of an individual, the Department of State shall issue them a certificate of citizenship.
- (d) Aside from the discretion of the Department of State, a person shall not be naturalized if:
 - (1) They have been found to have demonstrated a clear disregard for basic democratic ideals or values.
 - (2) They have been found to have made knowingly fraudulent claims in the pursuit of citizenship;

- (3) They have, with fraudulent intent, falsely claimed to be a citizen of the Republic of Soundland, or have voted in a Soundlandian election without holding citizenship;
- (4) They have been found guilty of crimes against humanity or war crimes;
- (5) They directly advocate for, or are associated with an organization that directly advocates for:
 - (a) totalitarianism;
 - (b) the overthrow by force or other unconstitutional means the Government of the Republic of Soundland or the establishment in the Republic of Soundland of an unconstitutional order;
 - (c) violence against officers or citizens of Soundland;
 - (d) violence or harassment targeted against a group protected by law or the constitution; or
 - (e) any actions which would violate the constitution of the Republic of Soundland or applicable international law regarding the basic rights of the person.
- (6) They have committed violence against the officers or citizens of Soundland because of such status.
- (e) A decision of the Department of State to reject an application of naturalization may be overturned by a court if it is found that the Department of State discriminated against an applicant on an illegal basis.

Section 5: Acquisition of Citizenship by Birth

- (a) A child acquires Soundlandian citizenship if:
 - (1) they were: (a) born in the Republic of Soundland, or (b) or at least one parent or guardian is a citizen at the time of birth.
 - (a) In order for the newborn to receive a certificate of citizenship and the rights associated with citizenship, certification of the birth must be provided to the Department of State.

Section 6: Loss of Citizenship

(a) Soundlandian citizenship may be lost by:

- (1) being convicted of committing an act of treason or sedition against the Republic of Soundland or otherwise or for attempting to overthrow, or bear arms against, the Republic, and having been sentenced the revocation of citizenship;
- (2) being convicted of having made knowingly false statements or claims to naturalization officers or other officials regarding eligibility for citizenship or otherwise committing fraudulent acts in the pursuit of citizenship;
- (3) being convicted of a high felony that includes the loss of citizenship listed as punishment and having been sentenced the revocation of citizenship as provided by the law;
- (4) self-renunciation of citizenship, upon the verification of intent and the presentation or secure transmission by the concerned of a signed affirmation of such an act to an officer of the Department of State.

(b) The Republic of Soundland shall at no time rescind the citizenship of any person that, if in doing so, would become stateless.

(c) The rescission of the rights and title of citizenship of someone of Soundlandian birth shall at no point be considered a rescission of their Soundlandian nationality.

Section 7: Permanent Residency

(a) Permanent Residents may freely live, work, and travel in the Republic of Soundland.

(b) Permanent Residents have the right, as provided by the Constitution, to petition the government of the Republic of Soundland and its institutions and bodies to rectify grievances or to consider issues.

(c) Upon fulfilling the requirements for permanent residence, an individual may apply to the Department of State for a certificate of permanent residence or an identification card proving permanent residence in the Republic of Soundland.

- (i) Upon the satisfaction of the Department of State that the individual is a permanent resident, they shall grant either a certificate of permanent residence or card of permanent residence, or both.
- (d) If the Department of State is aware of an individual who they are satisfied has fulfilled the requirements to be a permanent resident, they shall send a notice informing them of their legal status in the Republic of Soundland, and of their eligibility to receive a certificate of permanent residence and to apply for a card of permanent residence, as well as their eligibility to apply for naturalization.
 - (i) Upon the annexation of new territory, the Department of State shall conduct a census of all legal residents of the territory at the time of annexation, and after a time of three weeks, if such persons as recorded are still residing in the territory and otherwise qualify as a permanent resident of Soundland, the department shall send a notice as detailed in subsection (d) above.

Section 8: Effective Date

This act shall take effect four days after its enactment.

As Passed by the 3rd National Senate, 1/03/2026

Speaker of the National Senate

President of the Republic of Soundland