

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1861

To provide high-skilled nonimmigrant visas for nationals of the Republic of Korea, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 26, 2021

Mr. BLUNT (for himself and Ms. HIRONO) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To provide high-skilled nonimmigrant visas for nationals of the Republic of Korea, and for other purposes.

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. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Partner with Korea
5 Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. RECIPROCAL VISAS FOR NATIONALS OF SOUTH**
7 **KOREA.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 101(a)(15)(E) of the Im-
9 migration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(15)(E))
10 is amended—

1 (1) by striking “join him: (i) solely to carry”
 2 and inserting the following: “join him—

3 “(i) solely to carry”;

4 (2) by striking “(ii) solely to develop” and in-
 5 serting the following:

6 “(ii) solely to develop”;

7 (3) by striking “or (iii) solely to perform” and
 8 inserting the following:

9 “(iii) solely to perform”; and

10 (4) by adding at the end the following: “or

11 “(iv) solely to perform services in a spe-
 12 cialty occupation in the United States if the
 13 alien is a national of the Republic of Korea and
 14 with respect to whom the Secretary of Labor
 15 determines and certifies to the Secretary of
 16 Homeland Security and the Secretary of State
 17 that the intending employer has filed an attes-
 18 tation with the Secretary of Labor under sec-
 19 tion 212(t)(1);”.

20 (b) ATTESTATION.—Section 212 of such Act (8
 21 U.S.C. 1182), is amended—

22 (1) in subsection (t), as added by section
 23 402(b)(2) of the United States-Chile Free Trade
 24 Agreement Implementation Act (Public Law 108–
 25 77; 117 Stat. 941)—

1 (A) by striking “section
 2 101(a)(15)(H)(i)(b1) or section
 3 101(a)(15)(E)(iii)” each place it appears and
 4 inserting “subparagraph (E)(iii), (E)(iv), or
 5 (H)(i)(b1) of section 101(a)(15)”; and

6 (B) in clauses (i)(II), (ii)(II), and (iii)(II)
 7 of paragraph (3)(C), by striking “section 204,
 8 214(c), 101(a)(15)(H)(i)(b1), or
 9 101(a)(15)(E)(iii)” each place it appears and
 10 inserting “subparagraph (E)(iii), (E)(iv), or
 11 (H)(1)(b1) of section 101(a)(15) or section 204
 12 or 214(c)”; and

13 (2) by redesignating subsection (t), as added by
 14 section 1(b)(2)(B) of Public Law 108–449 (118
 15 Stat. 3470), as subsection (u).

16 (c) NUMERICAL LIMITATION.—Section 214(g) of
 17 such Act (8 U.S.C. 1184(g)) is amended by adding at the
 18 end the following:

19 “(12)(A) The Secretary of State may not approve
 20 more than 15,000 initial applications submitted for aliens
 21 described in section 101(a)(15)(E)(iv) in any fiscal year.

22 “(B) The numerical limitation under subparagraph
 23 (A) shall only apply to principal aliens and shall not apply
 24 to the spouses or children of such aliens.”.

1 (d) SPECIALTY OCCUPATION DEFINED.—Section
2 214(i)(1) of such Act (8 U.S.C. 1184(i)(1)) is amended
3 by striking “section 101(a)(15)(H)(i)(b), section
4 101(a)(15)(E)(iii), and paragraph (2),” and inserting
5 “paragraph (2) of this subsection and subparagraphs
6 (E)(iii), (E)(iv), and (H)(i)(b) of section 101(a)(15),”.

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