Public Law 91-225

To amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to facilitate the entry of certain nonimmigrants into the United States, and for other purposes.

AN ACT

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That (a) section 101(a) (15) (H) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a) (15) (H)), is amended to read as follows:

"(H) an alien having a residence in a foreign country which he has no intention of abandoning (i) who is of distinguished merit and ability and who is coming temporarily to the United States to perform services of an exceptional nature requiring such merit and ability; or (ii) who is coming temporarily to the United States to perform temporary services or labor, if unemployed persons capable of performing such service or labor cannot be found in this country; or (iii) who is coming temporarily to the United States as a trainee; and the alien spouse and minor children of any such alien specified in this paragraph if accompanying him or following to join him."

(b) Section 101(a) (15) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a) (15)) is amended by adding at the end thereof the following new subparagraphs:

"(K) an alien who is the fiancee or fiance of a citizen of the United States and who seeks to enter the United States solely to conclude a valid marriage with the petitioner within ninety days after entry, and the minor children of such fiancee or fiance accompanying him or following to join him.

"(L) an alien who, immediately preceding the time of his application for admission into the United States, has been employed continuously for one year by a firm or corporation or other legal entity or an affiliate or subsidiary thereof and who seeks to enter the United States temporarily in order to continue to render his services to the same employer or a subsidiary or affiliate thereof in a capacity that is managerial, executive, or involves specialized knowledge, and the alien spouse and minor children of any such alien if accompanying him or following to join him."

Sec. 2. Section 212(e) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1182(e)) is amended to read as follows:

"(e) No person admitted under section 101(a) (15) (J) or acquiring such status after admission whose (i) participation in the program for which he came to the United States was financed in whole or in part, directly or indirectly, by an agency of the Government of the United States or by the government of the country of his nationality or his last residence, or (ii) who at the time of admission or acquisition of status under section 101(a) (15) (J) was a national or resident of a country which the Secretary of State, pursuant to regulations prescribed by him, had designated as clearly requiring the services of persons engaged in the field of specialized knowledge or skill in which
the alien was engaged, shall be eligible to apply for an immigrant visa, or for permanent residence, or for a nonimmigrant visa under section 101(a) (15) (H) or section 101(a) (15) (L) until it is established that such person has resided and been physically present in the country of his nationality or his last residence for an aggregate of at least two years following departure from the United States: Provided, That upon the favorable recommendation of the Secretary of State, pursuant to the request of an interested United States Government agency, or of the Commissioner of Immigration and Naturalization after he has determined that departure from the United States would impose exceptional hardship upon the alien's spouse or child (if such spouse or child is a citizen of the United States or a lawfully resident alien), or that the alien cannot return to the country of his nationality or last residence because he would be subject to persecution on account of race, religion, or political opinion, the Attorney General may waive the requirement of such two-year foreign residence abroad in the case of any alien whose admission to the United States is found by the Attorney General to be in the public interest: And provided further, That the Attorney General may, upon the favorable recommendation of the Secretary of State, waive such two-year foreign residence requirement in any case in which the foreign country of the alien's nationality or last residence has furnished the Secretary of State a statement in writing that it has no objection to such waiver in the case of such alien.

Sec. 3. (a) Section 214(c) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1184(c)) is amended by inserting after “101(a) (15) (H)” the language “or (L)”.

(b) Section 214 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1184) is amended by adding at the end thereof the following new subsection:

“(d) A visa shall not be issued under the provisions of section 101(a) (15) (K) until the consular officer has received a petition filed in the United States by the fiancé or fiancé of the applying alien and approved by the Attorney General. The petition shall be in such form and contain such information as the Attorney General shall, by regulation, prescribe. It shall be approved only after satisfactory evidence is submitted by the petitioner to establish that the parties have a bona fide intention to marry and are legally able and actually willing to conclude a valid marriage in the United States within a period of ninety days after the alien's arrival. In the event the marriage with the petitioner does not occur within three months after the entry of the said alien and minor children, they shall be required to depart from the United States and upon failure to do so shall be deported in accordance with sections 242 and 243. In the event the marriage between the said alien and the petitioner shall occur within three months after the entry and they are found otherwise admissible, the Attorney General shall record the lawful admission for permanent residence of the alien and minor children as of the date of the payment of the required visa fees.”

Approved April 7, 1970.