

105TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 1198

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## AN ACT

To amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to provide permanent authority for entry into the United States of certain religious workers.

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 “Religious Workers Act  
5        of 1997”.

1 **SEC. 2. PERMANENT AUTHORITY FOR ENTRY INTO UNITED**  
2 **STATES OF CERTAIN RELIGIOUS WORKERS.**

3 Section 101(a)(27)(C)(ii) of the Immigration and  
4 Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(27)(C)(ii)) is amended  
5 by striking “before October 1, 1997,” each of the two  
6 places it appears.

7 **SEC. 3. WAIVER OF NONIMMIGRANT VISA FEES FOR CER-**  
8 **TAIN CHARITABLE PURPOSES.**

9 Section 281 of the Immigration and Nationality Act  
10 (8 U.S.C. 1351) is amended by adding at the end the fol-  
11 lowing new sentence: “Subject to such criteria as the Sec-  
12 retary of State may prescribe, including the duration of  
13 stay of the alien and the financial burden upon the chari-  
14 table organization, the Secretary of State shall waive or  
15 reduce the fee for application and issuance of a non-  
16 immigrant visa for any alien coming to the United States  
17 primarily for, or in activities related to, a charitable pur-  
18 pose involving health or nursing care, the provision of food  
19 or housing, job training, or any other similar direct service  
20 or assistance to poor or otherwise needy individuals in the  
21 United States.”.

Passed the Senate September 18, 1997.

Attest:

*Secretary.*

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