

# Calendar No. 303

108TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 1580

To amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to extend the special immigrant religious worker program.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

September 3, 2003

Mr. HATCH (for himself, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. DEWINE, and Mr. LEAHY) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

OCTOBER 2, 2003

Reported by Mr. HATCH, with an amendment

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in italic]

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## A BILL

To amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to extend the special immigrant religious worker program.

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 2003”.

1 **SEC. 2. PERMANENT EXTENSION OF SPECIAL IMMIGRANT**  
 2 **RELIGIOUS WORKER PROGRAM.**

3 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 101(a)(27)(C)(ii) of the  
 4 Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C.  
 5 1101(a)(27)(C)(ii)) is amended by striking “2003” each  
 6 place that term appears and inserting “2008”.

7 (b) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendment made by  
 8 subsection (a) shall take effect on October 1, 2003.

9 **SECTION 1. SPECIAL IMMIGRANT RELIGIOUS WORKER PRO-**  
 10 **GRAM.**

11 (a) **SHORT TITLE.**—*This section may be cited as the*  
 12 *“Religious Workers Act of 2003”.*

13 (b) **EXTENSION OF SPECIAL IMMIGRANT RELIGIOUS**  
 14 **WORKER PROGRAM.**—

15 (1) **IN GENERAL.**—*Section 101(a)(27)(C)(ii) of*  
 16 *the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C.*  
 17 *1101(a)(27)(C)(ii)) is amended by striking “2003”*  
 18 *each place that term appears and inserting “2008”.*

19 (2) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—*The amendment made by*  
 20 *paragraph (1) shall take effect on October 1, 2003.*

21 **SEC. 2. PILOT IMMIGRATION PROGRAM.**

22 (a) **PROCESSING PRIORITY UNDER PILOT IMMIGRA-**  
 23 **TION PROGRAM FOR REGIONAL CENTERS TO PROMOTE**  
 24 **ECONOMIC GROWTH.**—*Section 610 of the Departments of*  
 25 *Commerce, Justice, and State, the Judiciary, and Related*

1 *Agencies Appropriations Act, 1993 (8 U.S.C. 1153 note) is*  
2 *amended—*

3           (1) *by striking “Attorney General” each place*  
4 *such term appears and inserting “Secretary of Home-*  
5 *land Security”; and*

6           (2) *by adding at the end the following:*

7           “(d) *In processing petitions under section*  
8 *204(a)(1)(H) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8*  
9 *U.S.C. 1154(a)(1)(H)) for classification under section*  
10 *203(b)(5) of such Act (8 U.S.C. 1153(b)(5)), the Secretary*  
11 *of Homeland Security may give priority to petitions filed*  
12 *by aliens seeking admission under the pilot program de-*  
13 *scribed in this section. Notwithstanding section 203(e) of*  
14 *such Act (8 U.S.C. 1153(e)), immigrant visas made avail-*  
15 *able under such section 203(b)(5) may be issued to such*  
16 *aliens in an order that takes into account any priority ac-*  
17 *corded under the preceding sentence.”.*

18           (b) *EXTENSION.—Section 610(b) of the Departments*  
19 *of Commerce, Justice, and State, the Judiciary, and Re-*  
20 *lated Agencies Appropriations Act, 1993 (8 U.S.C. 1153*  
21 *note) is amended by striking “10 years” and inserting “15*  
22 *years”.*

23 **SEC. 3. GAO STUDY.**

24           (a) *IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date*  
25 *of enactment of this Act, the General Accounting Office shall*

1 *report to Congress on the immigrant investor program cre-*  
2 *ated under section 203(b)(5) of the Immigration and Na-*  
3 *tionality Act (8 U.S.C. 1153(b)(5)).*

4 *(b) CONTENTS.—The report described in subsection (a)*  
5 *shall include information regarding—*

6 *(1) the number of immigrant investors that have*  
7 *received visas under the immigrant investor program*  
8 *in each year since the inception of the program;*

9 *(2) the country of origin of the immigrant inves-*  
10 *tors;*

11 *(3) the localities where the immigrant investors*  
12 *are settling and whether those investors generally re-*  
13 *main in the localities where they initially settle;*

14 *(4) the number of immigrant investors that have*  
15 *sought to become citizens of the United States;*

16 *(5) the types of commercial enterprises that the*  
17 *immigrant investors have established; and*

18 *(6) the types and number of jobs created by the*  
19 *immigrant investors.*



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