

119TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

**S.** \_\_\_\_\_

To establish a new nonimmigrant category for alien relatives of United States citizens and lawful permanent residents seeking to enter the United States temporarily for family purposes, and for other purposes.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

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Mr. PAUL (for himself and Mr. BLUMENTHAL) introduced the following bill;  
which was read twice and referred to the Committee on

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**A BILL**

To establish a new nonimmigrant category for alien relatives of United States citizens and lawful permanent residents seeking to enter the United States temporarily for family purposes, 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 “Temporary Family  
5 Visitation Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. FAMILY PURPOSE NONIMMIGRANT VISAS FOR REL-**  
2 **ATIVES OF UNITED STATES CITIZENS AND**  
3 **LAWFUL PERMANENT RESIDENTS SEEKING**  
4 **TO ENTER THE UNITED STATES TEMPO-**  
5 **RARILY.**

6 (a) ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW NONIMMIGRANT VISA  
7 CATEGORY.—Section 101(a)(15)(B) of the Immigration  
8 and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(15)(B)) is amend-  
9 ed by striking “and who is visiting the United States tem-  
10 porarily for business or temporarily for pleasure;” and in-  
11 serting “and who is visiting the United States temporarily  
12 for—

13 “(i) business;  
14 “(ii) pleasure; or  
15 “(iii) family purposes;”.

16 (b) REQUIREMENTS APPLICABLE TO FAMILY PUR-  
17 POSE VISAS.—Section 214 of the Immigration and Na-  
18 tionality Act (8 U.S.C. 1184) is amended by adding at  
19 the end the following:

20 “(s) REQUIREMENTS APPLICABLE TO FAMILY PUR-  
21 POSE VISAS.—

22 “(1) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection and sec-  
23 tion 101(a)(15)(B)(iii):

24 “(A) FAMILY PURPOSES.—The term ‘fam-  
25 ily purposes’ means any visit by a relative for  
26 a social or occasional purpose, a major life

1 event, a religious event, or for any other pur-  
2 pose.

3 “(B) RELATIVE.—The term ‘relative’  
4 means the spouse, child, son, daughter, grand-  
5 child, parent, grandparent, great-grandparent,  
6 sibling, uncle, aunt, niece, or nephew of a cit-  
7 izen of the United States or an alien lawfully  
8 admitted for permanent residence.

9 “(2) REQUIREMENT.—A relative seeking admis-  
10 sion pursuant to a visa issued under section  
11 101(a)(15)(B)(iii) is inadmissible unless—

12 “(A) the individual petitioning for such ad-  
13 mission, or an additional sponsor, has sub-  
14 mitted to the Secretary of Homeland Security  
15 an undertaking under section 213 in the form  
16 of a declaration of financial support;

17 “(B) such relative has obtained, for the  
18 duration of his or her stay in the United States,  
19 a short-term travel medical insurance policy or  
20 an existing health insurance policy that pro-  
21 vides coverage for international medical ex-  
22 penses; and

23 “(C) such relative expresses intent to leave  
24 the United States at the conclusion of the pe-  
25 riod of authorized admission.

1           “(3) PERIOD OF AUTHORIZED ADMISSION.—

2           The period of authorized admission for a non-  
3           immigrant described in section 101(a)(15)(B)(iii)  
4           shall not exceed 90 days per calendar year.

5           “(4) PETITIONER ELIGIBILITY.—

6           “(A) IN GENERAL.—An individual may not  
7           petition for the admission of a relative as a  
8           nonimmigrant described in section  
9           101(a)(15)(B)(iii) if the individual previously  
10          petitioned for the admission of such a relative  
11          who—

12                   “(i) was admitted to the United  
13                   States pursuant to a visa issued under that  
14                   section as a result; and

15                   “(ii) overstayed his or her period of  
16                   authorized admission.

17           “(B) PREVIOUS PETITIONERS.—An indi-  
18           vidual filing a declaration of financial support  
19           for the admission of a relative as a non-  
20           immigrant described in section  
21           101(a)(15)(B)(iii) who has previously provided  
22           a declaration of financial support for such a rel-  
23           ative shall certify to the Secretary of Homeland  
24           Security that the relative whose admission the  
25           individual previously supported did not overstay

1 his or her period of authorized admission or  
2 provide an explanation of why the relative's  
3 overstay was due to extraordinary cir-  
4 cumstances beyond the control of the relative. A  
5 certification under this subparagraph shall be  
6 subject to section 1001 of title 18, United  
7 States Code.

8 “(C) WAIVER.—The Secretary of Home-  
9 land Security may waive the application of sec-  
10 tion 212(a)(9)(B) in the case of a non-  
11 immigrant described in section  
12 101(a)(15)(B)(iii) who overstayed his or her pe-  
13 riod of authorized admission due to extraor-  
14 dinary circumstances beyond the control of the  
15 nonimmigrant.”.

16 (c) RESTRICTION ON CHANGE OF STATUS.—Section  
17 248(a)(1) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8  
18 U.S.C. 1258(a)(1)) is amended to read as follows:

19 “(1) an alien classified as a nonimmigrant  
20 under subparagraph (B)(iii), (C), (D), (K), or (S) of  
21 section 101(a)(15),”.

22 (d) FAMILY PURPOSE VISA ELIGIBILITY WHILE  
23 AWAITING IMMIGRANT VISA.—

24 (1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding section  
25 214(b) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8

1 U.S.C. 1184(b)), a nonimmigrant described in sec-  
2 tion 101(a)(15)(B)(iii) of that Act who has been  
3 classified as an immigrant under section 201 of that  
4 Act (8 U.S.C. 1151) and is awaiting the availability  
5 of an immigrant visa subject to the numerical limita-  
6 tions under section 203 of that Act (8 U.S.C. 1153)  
7 may be admitted pursuant to a family purpose visa,  
8 in accordance with section 214(s) of that Act, if the  
9 individual is otherwise eligible for admission.

10 (2) LIMITATION.—An alien admitted as a non-  
11 immigrant described in section 101(a)(15)(B)(iii) of  
12 the Immigration and Nationality Act shall not be  
13 considered to have been admitted to the United  
14 States for purposes of section 245(a) of that Act (8  
15 U.S.C. 1255(a)).

16 (e) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this Act,  
17 or the amendments made by this Act, shall be construed—

18 (1) to limit the authority of immigration offi-  
19 cers to refuse to admit to the United States an ap-  
20 plicant under section 101(a)(15)(B)(iii) of the Immi-  
21 gration and Nationality Act who fails to meet one or  
22 more of the criteria under section 214(s) of that  
23 Act, or who is inadmissible under section 212(a) of  
24 that Act; or

1           (2) to preclude the application of section  
2           101(a)(15)(B)(ii) of the Immigration and Nation-  
3           ality Act to family travel for pleasure in accordance  
4           with the policies and procedures in effect on the day  
5           before the date of the enactment of this Act.