

S.3245 WAS SIGNED INTO THE LAW BY PRESIDENT OBAMA ON FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 28TH, 2012. THE VISA EXTENDS THE EXPIRATION DATES OF THE EB-5 REGIONAL CENTER PROGRAM, THE E-VERIFY PROGRAM AND THE SPECIAL IMMIGRANT NON-MINISTER RELIGIOUS WORKER PROGRAM AND THE CONRAD STATE 30 J-1 VISA WAIVER PROGRAM.

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Last Friday, President Obama signed into law an extension of several important immigration law programs.

The EB-5 Regional Center Program, similar to the EB-5 Investor Program, enables stimulation of the U.S. economy by overseas investors, the difference being that the EB-5 Regional Center Program is provided for by "The Immigrant Investor Pilot Program" through investments that are affiliated with an economical unit known as a "Regional Center". However, in both cases there is a minimum investment and a job creation requirement.

The E-Verify Program, an Internet-based system that compares information from an employee's Form I-9, Employment Eligibility Verification, to data from U.S. Department of Homeland Security and Social Security Administration records to confirm employment eligibility, allows the U.S. Department of Homeland Security to prevent unauthorized employment.

The Non-Minister Religious Worker Program is able to function by way of a special immigrant category that has been established for foreign national ministers and non-ministers in religious vocations and occupations to immigrate to or adjust status in the United States for the purpose of performing religious work. Although there exists a cap of 5,000 workers who may be issued a special immigrant non-minister religious worker visa during each fiscal year, there is no cap for special immigrant religious workers entering the United States solely for the purpose of carrying on the vocation of a minister.

Finally, the Conrad State 30/J-1 Visa Waiver Program alters the pre-existing requirement for international medical students who have completed their medical education in the U.S. to return to their country of nationality for at least two years before pursuing a career in the U.S. to instead be offered a place in underserved areas of the State. Under the Conrad State 30/J-1 Visa Waiver Program, this home residency requirement can be waived for up to thirty (30) J-1 physicians annually. In exchange, the J-1 physicians must agree to practice medicine full-time at a pre-approved sponsoring site for a minimum of three years. These practice sites must be located in federally designated health professional shortage areas (HPSA) or a medically underserved area (MUA).



For more information about any of these programs, please feel free to contact your immigration lawyers and attorneys at Nachman Phulwani Zimovcak Law Group, (NPZ) P.C. at 201-670-0006 (x107) or by e-mail to info@visaserve.com



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