



Legislation from 1961-1980

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Legislation from 1961-1980

1 Act of July 14, 1960 (74 Statutes-at-Large 504)

“Fair Share Refugee Act.”

Provisions:

- a. Authorized the Attorney General to parole up to 500 alien refugee-escapees and make them eligible for permanent residence.
- b. Amended the Act of September 2, 1958 to extend it to June 30, 1962.
- c. Amended the Act of September 11, 1957, which provided special nonquota immigrant visas for adopted or to-be-adopted orphans under 14 years of age, extending it to June 30, 1961.
- d. Amended the Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952, adding possession of marijuana to the sections concerning excludable and deportable offenses.
- e. Made alien seamen ineligible for adjustment from temporary to permanent resident status.

2 Act of August 17, 1961 (75 Statutes-at-Large 364)

Provided that, in peacetime, no volunteer is to be accepted into the Army or Air Force unless the person is a citizen or an alien admitted for permanent residence.

3 Act of September 26, 1961 (75 Statutes-at-Large 650)

Liberalized the quota provisions of the Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952:

- a. Eliminated the ceiling of 2,000 on the aggregate quota of the Asia-Pacific triangle.
- b. Provided that whenever one or more quota areas have a change of boundaries which might lessen their aggregate quota, they were to maintain the quotas they had before the change took place.
- c. Codified and made permanent the law for admission of adopted children.
- d. Established a single statutory form of judicial review of orders of deportation.
- e. Insured a minimum quota of 100 for newly independent nations.
- f. Called for the omission of information on race and ethnic origin from the visa application.
- g. Strengthened the law against the fraudulent gaining of nonquota status by marriage.
- h. Authorized the Public Health Service to determine which diseases are dangerous and contagious in constituting grounds for exclusion.

4 Act of October 24, 1962 (76 Statutes-at-Large 1247)

Provisions:

- a. Granted nonquota immigrant visas for certain aliens eligible for fourth preference (i.e., brothers, sisters, and children of citizens) and for first preference (i.e., aliens with special occupational skills).
- b. Called for a semimonthly report to Congress from the Attorney General of first preference petitions approved.
- c. Created a record of lawful entry and provided for suspension of deportation for aliens who have been physically present in the United States for at least seven years in some cases and ten years in others.

5 Act of December 13, 1963 (77 Statutes-at-Large 363)

Extended the Mexican Bracero Program one additional year to December 31, 1964.

6 Immigration and Nationality Act Amendments of October 3, 1965 (79 Statutes-at-Large 911)

Provisions:

- a. Abolished the national origins quota system (see the Immigration Act of 1924 and the Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952), eliminating national origin, race, or ancestry as a basis for immigration to the United States.
- b. Established allocation of immigrant visas on a first come, first served basis, subject to a seven-category preference system for relatives of U.S. citizens and permanent resident aliens (for the reunification of families) and for persons with special occupational skills, abilities, or training (needed in the United States).
- c. Established two categories of immigrants not subject to numerical restrictions:
 1. Immediate relatives (spouses, children, parents) of U.S. citizens, and
 2. Special immigrants: certain ministers of religion; certain former employees of the U.S. government abroad; certain persons who lost citizenship (e.g., by marriage or by service in foreign armed forces); and certain foreign medical graduates.
- d. Maintained the principle of numerical restriction, expanding limits to world coverage by limiting Eastern Hemisphere immigration to 170,000 and placing a ceiling on Western Hemisphere immigration (120,000) for the first time. However, neither the preference categories nor the 20,000 per-country limit were applied to the Western Hemisphere.
- e. Introduced a prerequisite for the issuance of a visa of an affirmative finding by the Secretary of Labor that an alien seeking to enter as a worker will not replace a worker in the United States nor adversely affect the wages and working conditions of similarly employed individuals in the United States.

7 Freedom of Information Act of July 4, 1966 (80 Statutes-at-Large 250)

Provisions:

- a. Established that the record of every proceeding before the INS in an individual's case be made available to the alien or his attorney of record.
- b. Required that public reading rooms be established in each Central and District office of the INS, where copies of INS decisions could be made available to the public.

Effective July 4, 1967.

8 Act of November 2, 1966 (80 Statutes-at-Large 1161)

Authorized the Attorney General to adjust the status of Cuban refugees to that of permanent resident alien, chargeable to the 120,000 annual limit for the Western Hemisphere.

9 Act of November 6, 1966 (80 Statutes-at-Large 1322)

Provisions:

- a. Extended derivative citizenship to children born on or after December 24, 1952 of civilian U.S. citizens serving abroad.
- b. Provided that time spent abroad by U.S. citizens (or their dependent children) in the employ of the U.S. Government or certain international organizations could be treated as physical presence in the United States for the purpose of transmitting U.S. citizenship to children born abroad.

10 Act of December 18, 1967 (81 Statutes-at-Large 661)

Facilitated the expeditious naturalization of certain noncitizen employees of U.S. nonprofit organizations.

11 Act of June 19, 1968 (82 Statutes-at-Large 197)

Omnibus crimes control and safe streets legislation, declared it illegal for aliens who are illegally in the country and for former citizens who have renounced their citizenship to receive, possess, or transport a firearm.

12 Act of October 24, 1968 (82 Statutes-at-Large 1343)

Amended the Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952, providing for expeditious naturalization of noncitizens who have rendered honorable services in the U.S. armed forces during the Vietnam conflict, or in other periods of military hostilities.

13 Act of April 7, 1970 (84 Statutes-at-Large 116)

Provisions:

- a. Created two new classes of nonimmigrant admission—fiance(e)s of U.S. citizens and intracompany transferees.
- b. Modified the H1 temporary worker class of nonimmigrant admission (workers of distinguished merit and ability).
- c. Altered the provisions of the law regarding the two-year residence requirement, making it easier for nonimmigrants who have been in the United States as exchange visitors to adjust to a different nonimmigrant status or to permanent resident status.

14 Act of August 10, 1971 (85 Statutes-at-Large 302)

Amended the Communications Act of 1934, providing that lawful permanent resident aliens be permitted to operate amateur radio stations in the United States and hold licenses for their stations.

15 Act of September 28, 1971 (85 Statutes-at-Large 348)

Amended the Selective Service Act of 1967. Provided that:

- a. Registration for the selective service shall not be applicable to any alien admitted to the United States as a nonimmigrant as long as he continues to maintain a lawful nonimmigrant status in the United States.
- b. No alien residing in the United States for less than one year shall be inducted for training and service into the U.S. armed forces.

16 Act of October 27, 1972 (86 Statutes-at-Large 1289)

Reduced restrictions concerning residence requirements for retention of U.S. citizenship acquired by birth abroad through a U.S. citizen parent and an alien parent.

17 Social Security Act Amendments of October 30, 1972 (86 Statutes-at-Large 1329)

Amended the Social Security Act, providing that Social Security numbers be assigned to aliens at the time of their lawful admission to the United States for permanent residence or temporarily to engage in lawful employment.

18 Act of October 20, 1974 (88 Statutes-at-Large 1387)

Repealed the “Coolie Trade” legislation of 1862. Such legislation, passed to protect Chinese and Japanese aliens from exploitation caused by discriminatory treatment from immigration laws then in effect, had become virtually inoperative because most of the laws singling out oriental peoples had been repealed or modified.

19 Indochina Migration and Refugee Assistance Act of May 23, 1975 (89 Statutes-at-Large 87)

Established a program of domestic resettlement assistance for refugees who have fled from Cambodia and Vietnam.

20 Act of June 21, 1976 (90 Statutes-at-Large 691)

Made Laotians eligible for programs established by the Indochina Migration and Refugee Assistance Act of 1975.

21 Act of October 12, 1976 (90 Statutes-at-Large 2243)

Placed restrictions on foreign medical school graduates (both immigrants and nonimmigrants) coming to the United States for practice or training in the medical profession. Effective January 10, 1977.

22 Immigration and Nationality Act Amendments of October 20, 1976 (90 Statutes-at-Large 2703)

Provisions:

- a. Applied the same 20,000 per-country limit to the Western Hemisphere as applied to the Eastern Hemisphere.
- b. Slightly modified the seven-category preference system and applied it to the Western Hemisphere.
- c. Amended the 1966 act, providing that Cuban refugees who are adjusted to permanent resident status will not be charged to any numerical limitation, provided they were physically present in the United States on or before the effective date of these amendments.

23 Act of October 20, 1976 Effective January 1, 1978 (90 Statutes-at-Large 2706)

Denied unemployment compensation to aliens not lawfully admitted for permanent residence or otherwise permanently residing in the United States under color of law. Eased restrictions on foreign medical school graduates, e.g., exempted aliens who are of national or international renown in the field of medicine, and exempted certain alien physicians already in the United States from the examination requirement. (See Act of October 12, 1976.)

24 Act of August 1, 1977 (91 Statutes-at-Large 394)

Eased restrictions on foreign medical school graduates, e.g., exempted aliens who are of national or international renown in the field of medicine, and exempted certain alien physicians already in the United States from the examination requirement. (See Act of October 12, 1976.)

25 Act of October 28, 1977 (91 Statutes-at-Large 1223)

Provisions:

- a. Permitted adjustment to permanent resident status for Indochinese refugees who are natives or citizens of Vietnam, Laos, or Cambodia, were physically present in the United States for at least two years, and were admitted or paroled into the United States during specified periods of time.
- b. Extended the time limit during which refugee assistance may be provided to such refugees.

26 Act of October 5, 1978 (92 Statutes-at-Large 907)

Combined the separate ceilings for Eastern and Western Hemisphere immigration into one worldwide limit of 290,000.

27 Act of October 5, 1978 (92 Statutes-at-Large 917)

Provisions:

- a. Made several changes pertaining to the adoption of alien children, including permission for U.S. citizens to petition for the classification of more than two alien orphans as immediate relatives.
- b. Eliminated the requirement of continuous residence in the United States for two years prior to filing for naturalization.

28 Act of October 7, 1978 (92 Statutes-at-Large 963)

Made permanent the President's authority to regulate the entry of aliens and to require U.S. citizens to bear valid passports when entering or leaving the United States:

- a. Called for unrestricted use of passports to and in any country other than a country with which the United States is at war, where armed hostilities are in progress, or where there is imminent danger to the public health or the physical safety of U.S. travelers.

- b. Declared it the general policy of the United States to impose restrictions on travel within the United States by citizens of another country only when the government of that country imposes restrictions on travel of U.S. citizens within that country.

29 Act of October 14, 1978 (92 Statutes-at-Large 1263)

Required any alien who acquires or transfers any interest in agricultural land to submit a report to the Secretary of Agriculture within 90 days after acquisition or transfer.

30 Act of October 30, 1978 (92 Statutes-at-Large 2065)

Provided for the exclusion and expulsion of aliens who persecuted others on the basis of race, religion, national origin, or political opinion under the direction of the Nazi government of Germany or its allies.

31 Act of November 2, 1978 (92 Statutes-at-Large 2479)

Provided for the seizure and forfeiture of vessels, vehicles, and aircraft used in smuggling aliens or knowingly transporting aliens to the United States illegally. An exception was made where the owner or person in control did not consent to the illegal act.

32 Panama Canal Act of September 27, 1979 (93 Statutes-at-Large 452)

Allowed admission as permanent residents to certain aliens with employment on or before 1977 with the Panama Canal Company, the Canal Zone government, or the U.S. government in the Canal Zone, and their families.

33 Refugee Act of March 17, 1980 (94 Statutes-at-Large 102)

Provided the first permanent and systematic procedure for the admission and effective resettlement of refugees of special humanitarian concern to the United States:

- a. Eliminated refugees as a category of the preference system.
- b. Set the worldwide ceiling of immigration to the United States at 270,000, exclusive of refugees.
- c. Established procedures for annual consultation with Congress on numbers and allocations of refugees to be admitted in each fiscal year, as well as procedures for responding to emergency refugee situations.
- d. Defined the term “refugee” (to conform to the 1967 United Nations Protocol on Refugees) and made clear the distinction between refugee and asylee status.
- e. Established a comprehensive program for domestic resettlement of refugees.
- f. Provided for adjustment to permanent resident status of refugees who have been physically present in the United States for at least one year and of asylees one year after asylum is granted.

34 Refugee Education Assistance Act of October 10, 1980 (94 Statutes-at-Large 1799)

Established a program of formula grants to State education agencies for basic education of refugee children. Also provided for services to Cuban and Haitian entrants identical to those for refugees under the Refugee Act of 1980.