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105TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 4116

To provide for the waiver of fees in the case of certain visas, to modify the schedule for implementation of certain border crossing restrictions, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 23, 1998

Mr. KOLBE introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

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A BILL

To provide for the waiver of fees in the case of certain visas, to modify the schedule for implementation of certain border crossing restrictions, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Border Visa Simplification Act''.

SEC. 2. BORDER CROSSING-RELATED VISAS.

(a) WAIVER OF FEES FOR CERTAIN VISAS.—

(1) REQUIREMENT.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary of State shall

waive the fee for the processing of any application for the issuance of a visa under section 101(a)(15)(B) of the Immigration and Nationality Act in the case of any alien under 15 years of age where the application for the visa is made in Mexico by a citizen of Mexico who has at least one parent or guardian who has a visa under such section or is applying for a visa under such section as well.

(2) PERIOD OF VALIDITY OF VISAS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), if the fee for a visa issued under section 101(a)(15)(B) of the Immigration and Nationality Act has been waived under paragraph (1) for a child under 15 years of age, the visa shall be issued to expire on the date on which the child attains the age of 18.

(B) EXCEPTION.—At the request of the parent or guardian of any alien under 15 years of age otherwise covered by subparagraph (A), the Secretary of State may charge a fee for the processing of an application of the issuance of a visa under section 101(a)(15)(B) of the Immigration and Nationality Act provided that the visa is issued to expire as of the same date as

is usually provided for visas issued under that section.

(b) MODIFIED SCHEDULE FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF BORDER CROSSING RESTRICTIONS.—

(1) MODIFIED SCHEDULE.—Paragraph (2) of section 104(b) of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 (division C of Public Law 104–208; 110 Stat. 3009–555; 8 U.S.C. 1101 note) is amended to read as follows:

"(2) CLAUSE B.—Clause (B) of such sentence shall apply as follows:

"(A) As of October 1, 2000, to not less than 25 percent of the border crossing identification cards in circulation as of April 1, 1998.

"(B) As of October 1, 2001, to not less than 50 percent of such cards in circulation as of April 1, 1998.

"(C) As of October 1, 2002, to not less than 75 percent of such cards in circulation as of April 1, 1998.

"(D) As of October 1, 2003, to all such cards in circulation as of April 1, 1998.".

(2) EARLIER DEADLINES.—Such section 104(b) is further amended by adding at the end the following:

"(3) EARLIER DEADLINES.—If the Secretary of State and the Attorney General jointly determine that sufficient capacity exists to replace border crossing identification cards in advance of any of the deadlines otherwise provided for under paragraph (2), the Secretary and the Attorney General may by regulation advance such deadlines.".

(c) PROCESSING IN MEXICAN BORDER CITIES.—The Secretary of State shall continue, until at least October 1, 2003, or until all border crossing identification cards in circulation have otherwise been required to be replaced under section 104(b)(3) of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 (as added by subsection (b)(2)), to process applications for visas under section 101(a)(15)(B) of the Immigration and Nationality Act at the following cities in Mexico located near the international border with the United States: Nogales, Nuevo Laredo, Ciudad Acuna, Piedras Negras, Agua Prieta, and Reynosa.

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