

105TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 4293

To establish a cultural and training program for disadvantaged individuals from Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 21, 1998

Mr. WALSH (for himself, Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts, Mr. GILMAN, Mr. KING, Mr. MANTON, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. QUINN, Mrs. MALONEY of New York, Mr. FORBES, Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island, Mr. KENNEDY of Massachusetts, Mrs. KELLY, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania, Mr. BORSKI, Mr. CALLAHAN, Mr. ABERCROMBIE, Mr. LEWIS of California, Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York, Mr. PASCARELL, Mr. MCDERMOTT, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. LANTOS, Mr. ENGEL, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. LAZIO of New York, Mr. PASTOR, Mrs. KENNELLY of Connecticut, Mr. MALONEY of Connecticut, and Mr. HORN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on International Relations, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To establish a cultural and training program for disadvantaged individuals from Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. UNITED STATES-NORTHERN IRELAND/REPUB-**
2 **LIC OF IRELAND CULTURAL AND TRAINING**
3 **PROGRAM.**

4 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—

5 (1) PURPOSE.—The Secretary of State, in con-
6 sultation with the Secretary of Labor, shall establish
7 a program designed to bring individuals from dis-
8 advantaged areas of Northern Ireland and the Re-
9 public of Ireland to the United States for the pur-
10 pose of providing such individuals the experience of
11 living and working in a multicultural society while
12 obtaining valuable work skills and experience.

13 (2) GUIDELINES.—The program established
14 under paragraph (1) shall be carried out in accord-
15 ance with the following guidelines:

16 (A) The program shall expose individuals
17 who have been subjected to a war-torn, mono-
18 cultural, sectarian environment to the diverse,
19 cooperative, multicultural environment of the
20 United States.

21 (B) The program shall identify disadvan-
22 tagged areas within Northern Ireland and the
23 Republic of Ireland which require public and
24 private sector activity to break the cycle of
25 structural unemployment and identify individ-
26 uals, including the long-term unemployed and

1 out-of-work young adults, to participate in the
2 program and in doing so assist in regenerating
3 the economies of such areas.

4 (C) The program shall bring individuals to
5 the United States for a period of not more than
6 60 months.

7 (D) The program shall encourage grass-
8 roots support for long-term peace and economic
9 stability by providing training in peaceful coex-
10 istence and conflict resolution in addition to
11 work skills and job experience.

12 (E) The program shall promote cross-com-
13 munity and cross-border initiatives which ex-
14 pose individuals from disadvantaged areas of
15 Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland to
16 the business and social life of other commu-
17 nities.

18 (F) The program shall train individuals in
19 job skills for which there are opportunities for
20 employment in disadvantaged areas of Northern
21 Ireland and the Republic of Ireland.

22 (b) TEMPORARY NONIMMIGRANT VISA.—

23 (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 101(a)(15)(Q) of the
24 Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C.
25 1101(a)(15)(Q)) is amended—

1 (A) by inserting “(i)” after “(Q)”; and

2 (B) by inserting after the semicolon at the
3 end the following: “or (ii) an alien having a res-
4 idence in Northern Ireland or the Republic of
5 Ireland which the alien has no intention of
6 abandoning who is coming temporarily (for a
7 period not to exceed 60 months) to the United
8 States as a participant in a United States-
9 Northern Ireland/Republic of Ireland cultural
10 and training program approved by the Sec-
11 retary of State for the purpose of providing
12 practical training, employment, and the experi-
13 ence of coexistence and conflict resolution in a
14 multicultural society, consistent with the his-
15 tory, culture, and traditions of the people of
16 Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland,
17 and who will be employed under the same
18 wages and working conditions as domestic
19 workers.”.

20 (2) WAIVER AUTHORITY.—Section 212 of the
21 Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1182) is
22 amended by adding after subsection (o) the following
23 new subsection:

24 “(p) The Attorney General, in the discretion of the
25 Attorney General, may waive the provisions of paragraph

1 (6)(C) and (9) of subsection (a) in the case of an alien
2 who is applying for a nonimmigrant visa under section
3 101(a)(15)(Q)(ii).”.

4 (c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
5 are authorized to be appropriated for each fiscal year such
6 sums as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of
7 this section. Amounts appropriated pursuant to this sub-
8 section are authorized to be available until expended.

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