

108TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 4453

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

OCTOBER 7, 2004

Received

AN ACT

To improve access to physicians in medically underserved
areas.

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. MODIFICATION OF VISA REQUIREMENTS WITH**
2 **RESPECT TO INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL**
3 **GRADUATES.**

4 (a) **EXTENSION OF DEADLINE.**—

5 (1) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 220(c) of the Immi-
6 gration and Nationality Technical Corrections Act of
7 1994 (8 U.S.C. 1182 note) (as amended by section
8 11018 of Public Law 107–273) is amended by strik-
9 ing “2004.” and inserting “2006.”.

10 (2) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendment made
11 by paragraph (1) shall take effect as if enacted on
12 May 31, 2004.

13 (b) **EXEMPTION FROM H–1B NUMERICAL LIMITA-**
14 **TIONS.**—Section 214(l)(2)(A) of the Immigration and Na-
15 tionality Act (8 U.S.C. 1184(l)(2)(A)) is amended by add-
16 ing at the end the following: “The numerical limitations
17 contained in subsection (g)(1)(A) shall not apply to any
18 alien whose status is changed under the preceding sen-
19 tence, if the alien obtained a waiver of the 2-year foreign
20 residence requirement upon a request by an interested
21 Federal agency or an interested State agency.”.

22 (c) **LIMITATION ON MEDICAL PRACTICE AREAS.**—
23 Section 214(l)(1)(D) of the Immigration and Nationality
24 Act (8 U.S.C. 1184(l)(1)(D)) is amended by striking
25 “agrees to practice medicine” and inserting “agrees to
26 practice primary care or specialty medicine”.

1 (d) EXEMPTION FROM GEOGRAPHIC LIMITATIONS.—
2 Section 214(l)(1)(D) of the Immigration and Nationality
3 Act (8 U.S.C. 1184(l)(1)(D)), as amended by subsection
4 (c), is further amended—

5 (1) by striking “except that,” and all that fol-
6 lows through the period at the end and inserting
7 “except that—”; and

8 (2) by adding at the end the following:

9 “(i) in the case of a request by the Depart-
10 ment of Veterans Affairs, the alien shall not be
11 required to practice medicine in a geographic
12 area designated by the Secretary; and

13 “(ii) in the case of a request by an inter-
14 ested State agency, the head of such State
15 agency determines that the alien is to practice
16 medicine under such agreement in a facility
17 that serves patients who reside in one or more
18 geographic areas so designated by the Secretary
19 of Health and Human Services (without regard
20 to whether such facility is within such a des-
21 ignated geographic area), and the grant of such
22 waiver would not cause the number of the waiv-
23 ers granted on behalf of aliens for such State
24 for a fiscal year (within the limitation described

1 in subparagraph (B)) in accordance with the
2 conditions of this clause to exceed 5.”.

Passed the House of Representatives October 6,
2004.

Attest:

JEFF TRANDAHL,

Clerk.