

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 5127

To reduce appointment wait times for certain nonimmigrant visas known as visitor visas, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

AUGUST 1, 2023

Ms. SALAZAR (for herself, Mrs. LEE of Nevada, Mrs. MILLER of West Virginia, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Mr. SWALWELL, Ms. TITUS, Ms. NORTON, Mr. KIM of New Jersey, Mr. GOLDMAN of New York, Mrs. RADEWAGEN, Ms. TOKUDA, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. RYAN, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Mr. CASE, Mr. CARSON, Mr. TRONE, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mrs. GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Ms. MACE, Mr. WEBSTER of Florida, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, and Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To reduce appointment wait times for certain nonimmigrant visas known as visitor visas, and for other purposes.

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

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Visitor Visa Wait Time
5 Reduction Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. REPORT AND REASSIGNMENT OF PERSONNEL FOR**
2 **EXCESSIVE VISITOR VISA WAIT TIMES.**

3 (a) REPORT REQUIRED.—Not later than 90 days
4 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary
5 of State shall submit to the Committee on Foreign Affairs
6 of the House of Representatives and the Committee on
7 Foreign Relations of the Senate a report that includes—

8 (1) a list of each diplomatic and consular post
9 at which the average waiting period, beginning on
10 the date an individual submits an application for a
11 nonimmigrant visa under section 101(a)(15)(B) of
12 the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C.
13 1101) (commonly referred to as a “visitor visa”) and
14 the date such individual is granted an interview for
15 such a visa, exceeds 100 days; and

16 (2) an explanation of the concrete steps taken
17 at each such post in order to reduce such average
18 waiting period.

19 (b) REASSIGNMENT OF PERSONNEL.—With respect
20 to any diplomatic or consular posts at which the average
21 waiting period described in subsection (a)(1) exceeds 300
22 days, the Secretary of State shall, as appropriate, tempo-
23 rarily reassign appropriate personnel of the Department
24 of State to directly assist consular staff at such posts in
25 order to reduce such average waiting period.