SENATE RESOLUTION 164—DESIGNATING THE WEEK BEGINNING APRIL 22, 2007, AS “WEEK OF THE YOUNG CHILD”

Mr. SALAZAR (for himself, Mr. ALKANDER, Mr. DODD, Mr. BURR, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. COLEMAN, Mr. COCHRAN, Mrs. COLLINS, Mrs. CLINTON, Mr. CORKER, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. CONRAD, and Mr. LEVIN) submitted the following resolution, which was considered and agreed to:

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Whereas there are 20,000,000 children under the age of 5 in the United States;

Whereas crime, gun violence, and juvenile crime are serious national problems, including the Abecedarian Study, the Study of the Chicago Child-Parent Center, and the High/Scope Perry Preschool Study, indicate that low income children who have enrolled in quality, comprehensive early childhood education programs—

(1) improve their cognitive, language, physical, social, and emotional development; and

(2) are less likely to—

(A) be placed in special education;

(B) drop out of school; or

(C) engage in juvenile delinquency;

Whereas the enrollment rates of children under the age of 5 in early childhood education programs have steadily increased since 1965 with—

(1) the creation of the Head Start program carried out under the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9831 et seq.);

(2) the establishment of the Early Head Start program carried out under the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9831 et seq.); and

(3) the enactment of the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 9853 et seq.);

Whereas many children eligible for, and in need of, quality early childhood education services are not served;

Whereas less than 5 percent of all eligible babies and toddlers in the United States receive the opportunity to participate in Early Head Start;

Whereas only about one-half of all preschoolers who are eligible to participate in Head Start programs have the opportunity to do so;

Whereas the number calculated under paragraph (9) in each fiscal year after the fiscal year described in clause (viii) shall be equal to 120 percent of the numerical limitation of the previous fiscal year; or

(2) by adding at the end, the following new subparagraphs:

“(D) has earned a master’s or higher degree from a United States institution of higher education (as defined in section 101(a) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001(a))); or

“(E) has been awarded medical specialty certification based on post-doctoral training and experience in the United States.”.

(b) APPLICABILITY.—The amendments made by subsection (a) shall apply to any petition for a visa, or application pending on the date of enactment of this Act and any petition or visa application filed on or after such date.

SEC. 1612. MARKET-BASED VISA LIMITS.

Section 214(g) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1184(g)) is amended—

(1) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking “(beginning with fiscal year 1992)”;

(2) in subparagraph (A)—

(A) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking “(beginning with fiscal year 1992)”;

(B) in subparagraph (A)—

(i) in clause (vi) by striking “and”;

(ii) in clause (vi), by striking “each succeeding fiscal year or” and inserting “each of fiscal years 2004, 2005, 2006, and 2007”;

(iii) by adding after clause (vii) the following:

“(j) the number calculated under paragraph (9) in each fiscal year after the fiscal year described in clause (vii) or “;

(2) in paragraph (5), as amended by section 1611(a), in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by inserting “101(a)(15)(H)(i)(b)(1) or section” after “section”;

(3) in paragraph (8), by striking subparagraphs (B)(iv) and (D); and

(4) by redesignating paragraphs (9), (10), and (11) as paragraphs (10), (11), and (12), respectively; and

(5) by inserting after paragraph (8) the following:

“(9) If the numerical limitation in paragraph (1)(A)—

“A is reached during the previous fiscal year, the numerical limitation under paragraph (1)(A)(ix) for the subsequent fiscal year shall be equal to 120 percent of the numerical limitation of the previous fiscal year; or

“(B) is not reached during the previous fiscal year, the numerical limitation under paragraph (1)(A)(ix) for the subsequent fiscal year shall be equal to the numerical limitation of the previous fiscal year.”.

Subtitle B—Retaining Foreign Workers Educated in the United States

SEC. 1621. UNITED STATES EDUCATED IMMIGRANTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 201(b)(1) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1151(b)(1)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(F) Aliens who have earned a master’s or higher degree from an accredited United States university.

“(G) Aliens who have been awarded medical specialty certification based on post-doctoral training and experience in the United States preceding their application for an immigrant visa, or application pending on the date of enactment of this Act and any petition or visa application filed on or after such date.

“(H) Aliens who will perform labor in shortage occupations designated by the Secretary of Labor for blanket certification under section 212(a)(4)(A) as lacking sufficient United States workers able, willing, qualified, and available for such occupations and for which the employment of aliens will not adversely affect the terms and conditions of similarly employed United States workers.