

PILLER ACT OF 2018

Preserving Immigration Levels and Legally Enhancing Readiness Act

Border Security Measures & Trust Fund

- \$25 billion in border trust fund for the completion of border security measures; \$1.8 billion maximum available per year for border improvements; includes an annual reporting requirement; includes mandatory construction of border access roads; establishes “Office of Legal Access Programs” within Executive Office of Immigration Review to develop and administer a system of legal orientation programs to make immigration proceedings more efficient and cost effective;
- includes CBP Hire Act requirements and permissions;
- includes ICE Detainer Indemnifications;
- includes INA amendment detailing “Designation of a Criminal Gang or Cartel” (definition);
- includes immigration court improvements increasing the number of immigration judges by 75 in fiscal year 2019, 2020, and 2021; also increases Board of Immigration Appeals staff attorneys by 30 in fiscal year 2019, 2020, and 2021.

Provides Permanent Solution for DACA Recipients

- Estimated 1.8M people with an earned path to citizenship after 12 years (with a 2 year credit for current DACA enrollees). Requirements:
 - The alien has been continuously present in U.S. since June 15, 2012.
 - The alien was younger than 18 on the date he or she entered the U.S.
 - The alien has no criminal or moral violations, convictions, etc. (as defined)
 - The alien has (1) been admitted to a higher education institution, (2) has a high school or equivalent diploma, (3) or has served or is serving in the armed services (honorable discharge)
 - And the alien has paid any applicable federal tax liability or entered into an agreement to do so

Chain Migration Reforms

- Recipients of new protections cannot sponsor their parents for permanent lawful residence.
- Limits family-based immigrant visas to spouses and children
 - Reallocates visas: (1) first to family-sponsored immigrants backlog, (2) and then of what remains, 50% to EB2 (adv. degrees) visas and 50% to EB3 (skilled workers) visas (in that order)

Diversity Visa Reforms

- The Diversity Visa is eliminated and reallocated as follows:
 - 25,000 to employment-based immigrants
 - 10,000 Staple Act: eliminates caps on S.T.E.M. Ph.D. holders with employment offers
 - 10,000 Immigration Entrepreneurship Act: creates “nonimmigrant invest visas” or “invest immigrant visas” if immigrant has a significant ownership interest in a startup that receives requisite investment from an investor and meets other requirements, such as job creation
 - 5,000 to EB5 Visas: similar to IEA visas but requires more investment and more jobs created.
 - 25,000 to the family-sponsored backlog (which then drop off after the backlog is eliminated.)