



THE AMERICAN DREAM

Why this bill is important:

Asian Americans have had a rocky road to the American Dream. There were laws that excluded Asian immigrants until the late 19th century.

The Immigration and Nationality Act of 1965 represents a significant watershed moment in Asian American history. Reversing decades of systematic exclusion and restrictive immigration policies, the Act resulted in unprecedented numbers of immigrants from Asia, Mexico, Latin America, and other non-western nations entering the U.S. In the process, these new arrivals, particular from Asia, have transformed the demographic, economic, and cultural characteristics of many urban areas, the larger Asian American community, and mainstream American society in general.

The Comprehensive Immigration Reform Act of 2007 hoped to restructure visa criteria around high-skilled workers along with other changes, but unfortunately died quickly in the senate due to heated criticism.

For every one call of support received by the senators, there were 100 calls from the opponents of the bill.



How you can help

Participate at our immigration reform forums – Stay tuned for dates!

Take advantage of free naturalization workshops offered in Fall of 2013

Call your representative in Congress today and tell him/her that you support the immigration reform bill

Get on SAAVI's email distribution list today.

For more information, contact Karishma Goel at karishma@miunited.org

S 744 CIR Bill

Some Proposed Changes of the Comprehensive Immigration Reform Bill

Employment

The new proposed legislation increases not only the ceiling but the floor of the number of H-1B visas granted every year. The minimum recommended number of visas is increased from 65,000 to 110,000 with a possible upper limit of 180,000 visas.

Spouses of H-1B to now find employment. This will be a great change for those spouses on H-4 visas who cannot work in the U.S. unless they get H-1B visas of their own.

Family

The bill is also proposing a cap on the age of eligibility of married sons and daughters of U.S. citizens to 31 years old. So, if you are a U.S. citizen, it is better that you apply to petition for your married son or daughter before he or she "ages out" and is no longer eligible for this visa.

The other category in the family-based visas is that of spouses, minor children, and unmarried sons and daughters over 21 years of age of Legal Permanent Residents. This category is proposed to be changed to the "immediate relative" category which does not usually have a wait period for visas to be issued. This is a great opportunity for green card holders to be unified with their families a lot sooner than they may have been otherwise.

Go to www.saa-vi.org for the complete bill.

