

113TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1279

To authorize the Secretary of State to issue up to 10,500 E–3 visas per year to nationals of the Republic of Korea (South).

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 20, 2013

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA (for himself and Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To authorize the Secretary of State to issue up to 10,500 E–3 visas per year to nationals of the Republic of Korea (South).

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 “United States-Korea
5 Free Trade Agreement Fairness Act of 2013”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress makes the following findings:

8 (1) Although it was not formally a part of the
9 United States-Australia Free Trade Agreement, the
10 E–3 visa category was created for up to 10,500 Aus-

1 tralian nationals per year in the aftermath of the
2 ratification of that agreement.

3 (2) The Republic of Korea has been a critical
4 treaty ally and trading partner of the United States
5 for the past 60 years.

6 (3) Ever since the signing of the 1882 Treaty
7 of Peace, Amity, Commerce, and Navigation between
8 the Kingdom of Chosun (Korea) and the United
9 States, the two countries have stood at the forefront
10 in the promotion of freedom, democracy, peace, sta-
11 bility, and human rights.

12 (4) With the unwavering commitment and sup-
13 port of the United States, the Republic of Korea has
14 undergone a remarkable economic and political
15 transformation, rising from poverty to become the
16 11th largest economy in the world and a thriving,
17 multiparty democracy.

18 (5) The alliance between the United States and
19 the Republic of Korea has been forged in blood and
20 further advanced by struggles against common ad-
21 versaries in the Korean peninsula, Vietnam, Iraq,
22 and Afghanistan.

23 (6) The Republic of Korea ranked, as of De-
24 cember 2012, as the 7th largest trading partner of
25 the United States.

1 (7) The United States and the Republic of
2 Korea signed the United States-Korea Free Trade
3 Agreement on June 30, 2007, and that agreement
4 was entered into force on March 15, 2012.

5 (8) There are deep cultural and personal ties
6 between the people of the United States and the peo-
7 ple of the Republic of Korea, as exemplified by the
8 large flow of visitors and exchanges each year, en-
9 hanced by adoption of the Visa Waiver Program
10 (VWP).

11 (9) The almost 2,000,000 members of the Ko-
12 rean-American community have made significant
13 contributions to the commercial, academic, profes-
14 sional, medical, scientific, engineering, educational,
15 military, artistic, musical, and athletic development
16 of the United States.

17 (10) Immigration from the Republic of Korea
18 has been an important part of the history, identity,
19 and culture of the United States.

20 (11) The Republic of Korea continues to be a
21 vital strategic ally, trade partner and friend to the
22 United States.

23 **SEC. 3. E-VISA REFORM.**

24 (a) DEFINITION.—Section 101(a)(15)(E)(iii) of the
25 Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C.

1 1101(a)(15)(E)(iii) is amended by inserting “, or solely
2 to perform services as an employee who meets the require-
3 ments under section 203(c)(2) if the alien is a national
4 of the Republic of Korea” after “Australia”.

5 (b) NUMERICAL LIMITATION.—Section
6 214(g)(11)(B) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8
7 U.S.C. 1184(g)(11)(B)) is amended by inserting “for each
8 of the nationalities identified under section
9 101(a)(15)(E)(iii)” before the period at the end.

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