

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 178

To require the country of origin of certain special immigrant religious workers to extend reciprocal immigration treatment to nationals of the United States.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 3, 2017

Mr. KING of Iowa introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To require the country of origin of certain special immigrant religious workers to extend reciprocal immigration treatment to nationals of the United States.

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 “Religious Worker Visa
5 Reciprocity Act of 2017”.

6 **SEC. 2. REQUIRING RECIPROCAL IMMIGRATION TREAT-**
7 **MENT.**

8 Section 204(a)(1)(G) of the Immigration and Nation-
9 ality Act (8 U.S.C. 1154(a)(1)(G)) is amended by adding
10 at the end the following:

1 “(iii) Beginning on October 1, 2017, no petition may
2 be approved for classification of an alien as a special immi-
3 grant under section 101(a)(27)(C) if the Secretary of
4 Homeland Security has determined that the country of the
5 alien’s nationality—

6 “(I) is identified as a ‘Country of Particular
7 Concern’ or a country where religious freedom is of
8 significant interest in the 2013 International Reli-
9 gious Freedom Report; or

10 “(II) does not extend reciprocal immigration
11 treatment to nationals of the United States who are
12 seeking resident status in order to work in a reli-
13 gious vocation or occupation.”.

○