

HR 937 IH

111th CONGRESS

1st Session

**H. R. 937**

To amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to permit certain Mexican children, and accompanying adults, to obtain a waiver of the documentation requirements otherwise required to enter the United States as a temporary visitor.

**IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES****February 10, 2009**

Mr. FILNER introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

**A BILL**

To amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to permit certain Mexican children, and accompanying adults, to obtain a waiver of the documentation requirements otherwise required to enter the United States as a temporary visitor.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

**SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

This Act may be cited as the `Visitors Interested in Strengthening America (VISA) Act of 2009'.

**SEC. 2. WAIVER OF DOCUMENTARY REQUIREMENTS FOR CERTAIN NONIMMIGRANT CHILDREN AND ACCOMPANYING ADULTS.**

Section 212(d)(4) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1182(d)(4)) is amended--

- (1) by striking `(4)' and inserting `(4)(A)';
- (2) by redesignating subparagraphs (A), (B), and (C) as clauses (i), (ii), and (iii), respectively; and
- (3) by adding at the end the following:

`(B)(i) Upon application by an alien who is citizen or national of Mexico, and who is applying for admission as a visitor under section 101(a)(15)(B) from Mexico, the Department of Homeland Security official in charge at a port of entry may, in the exercise of his or her discretion, on a case-by-case basis, waive either or both of the documentary requirements of section 212(a)(7)(B)(i), if satisfied that the alien is in possession of proper identification, as provided under clause (ii), and--

- `(I) is a child coming for a regular medical appointment (as evidenced by proof such as a letter from the medical professional concerned), or is the parent (or other adult chaperone) accompanying such a child, except that the number of adults admitted under this subclause shall not exceed one per child;
- `(II) is a child coming with a student group to participate in an educational or cultural event (such as an athletic or academic event, a concert or other artistic performance, or a visit to a recreational, touristic, or historical site) for not more than 1 day (as evidenced by proof such as a letter of invitation issued to the group), or is an adult chaperone, such as a teacher, coach, or parent, accompanying such a group, except that the number of chaperones admitted under this subclause shall not exceed that sufficient to supervise the group involved; or

` (III) is a child coming to participate in a special community event that traditionally has been attended by individuals from both sides of the border (as evidenced by proof such as a public letter of invitation issued by the community concerned), or is a parent or other adult relative accompanying such a child.

` (ii)(I) For purposes of this subparagraph, in the case of a child, proper identification shall include a passport, birth certificate, or other proof of citizenship or nationality.

` (II) In the case of an adult, proper identification shall include a passport, birth certificate, or other proof of citizenship or nationality, and a government-issued driver's license, or similar document issued for the purpose of identification, that contains personal identifying information and a photograph.

` (iii) For purposes of this subparagraph--

` (I) the term `child' means an unmarried person under 16 years of age; and

` (II) the term `adult' means any person who is not a child.'

*END*