Amendments Considered during Senate CIR Debate

Below is a list of amendments offered during the Senate CIR debate.[1] Amendments that AILA has taken a position on are noted accordingly. If the text of an amendment is not available, or if the amendment is not slated for consideration, AILA may not have taken a position.

*Updated 6/4/07, 4:30pm

Amendment	Sponsor(s)	Summary	AILA's Position	Current Status
Pending Amendments				
SA 1166	Grassley	Remove judicial review for visa revocation	**OPPOSE**	PENDING debated 5/22
SA 1170	McConnell	Require states to require voters to produce photo ID at polls; provide grants to states to provide eligible voters with free photo IDs	**OPPOSE**	PENDING considered 5/24
SA 1176	Feingold	Authorize review of treatment of German Americans, Italian Americans, and Jewish refugees during WWII	**SUPPORT**	PENDING considered 5/24
SA 1183	Clinton	Move spouses and children of LPRs to immediate relative category	**SUPPORT**	PENDING
SA 1184	Cornyn	Expand definition of aggravated felony to include failure to register as a sex offender, gang crimes, certain firearm offenses, and three DUIs; add suspected terrorist activity as basis for denying "good moral character"; add to inadmissibility grounds firearm offenses, aggravated felonies, and domestic violence; make social security and identification fraud grounds for deportability; broaden gang crime definition to include any crime of violence (cf. five years imprisonment); delete waivers for gang crimes; imposes bars from Z status for aggravated felonies, high speed flight, failure to register as sex offender, terrorist activity, document fraud; bars Z waivers for prior removals and document fraud	**OPPOSE**	PENDING debated 5/23
SA 1189	Allard	Strike Supplemental Schedule of point system for Z visa holders seeking adjustment	**OPPOSE**	PENDING
SA 1191	Lieberman	Safe and Secure Detention Act: Establish special detention standards for asylum seekers and other vulnerable populations	**SUPPORT**	PENDING considered 5/24
SA 1194	Menendez	Move family backlog cutoff date from May 5, 2005 to January 1, 2007 and increase annual numbers of visas in each category to clear backlog from 567,000 to 677,000	**SUPPORT**	PENDING considered 5/24
SA 1199	Dodd	Remove ceiling on parent immigrant visas; remove penalty provisions for countries with excessive overstays for parent visitor visas	**SUPPORT**	PENDING considered 5/24
SA 1202	Obama-Menendez	Sunset point system and restore preference system after 5 years (save supplemental allocation of immigrant visas for Z visa holders)	**SUPPORT**	PENDING
SA 1231	Durbin-Grassley	Removes DOL-determined labor shortages as an exception to employer recruitment requirements for Y	**OPPOSE**	PENDING considered

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[1] This chart is based upon a chart of amendments offered to S. 1348 developed by the Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights (ICIRR). Summaries for amendments #1146-1256 were provided by ICIRR. All stated positions are AILA's.

		visas		5/24
SA 1234	Sessions	Bar Y workers and Z visa holders from receiving EITC until they adjust status	**OPPOSE**	PENDING considered 5/24
SA 1235	Sessions	Bar LPRs from receiving EITC for five years after becoming LPR	**OPPOSE**	PENDING considered 5/24
SA 1249	Cantwell	Exempt from point system aliens of extraordinary or exceptional ability	**SUPPORT**	Likely to be considered in some form
SA 1250	Cornyn	Require disclosure of information on Z visa applications for investigations of criminal or civil violations; authorize disclosure of application information after denial	**OPPOSE**	PENDING
Passed Amendments				
SA 1146	Feinstein	Provide special protections and procedures for unaccompanied minors	**SUPPORT**	Passed by voice vote 5/23
SA 1165	Leahy	Create special rules H-2a dairy workers (admitted for 1 year and can extend for 3 years; not subject to period of absences)		Passed by unanimous consent 5/23
SA 1168	Hutchison	Require greater involvement of local officials in decisions regarding the location of border fencing, esp. regarding impact on environment, culture, commerce, and quality of life for nearby residents		Passed by unanimous consent 5/23
SA 1169	Bingaman	Reduce number of Y visas from 400,000 to 200,000; strike market-based adjustments	**OPPOSE**	Passed 74-24 5/23
SA 1172	Gregg	Amend the triggers to require -operational control of border -20,000 total Border Patrol agents (cf. 18,000) -100 new vehicle barriers -105 radar and camera towers -facilities to detain 31,500 (from 27,500); deletes exemptions from triggers for Z probationary status, H-2 visas, non-Y visas under Title IV		Passed by voice vote 5/23
SA 1173	Graham	Provide for minimum sentences for aliens who reenter US after removal (2-10 years)	**OPPOSE**	Passed by unanimous consent 5/23
SA 1186	Akaka	Exempt children of certain Filipino World War II veterans from the numerical limits on immigrant visas		Passed 87-9 5/24
SA 1190	McCain	Require Z visa applicants to show payment of all federal and state taxes		Passed by voice vote 5/24
SA 1223	Sanders	Establish the American Competitiveness Scholarship Program to provide scholarships for US students of mathematics, engineering, health care, or computer science, to be funded by $5,000 surcharge for H-1B visa applications	**OPPOSE**	Passed 59-35 5/24
Failed Amendments				
SA 1153	Dorgan	Strike Y visa program	**OPPOSE**	Failed 31-64 5/22
SA 1157	Vitter	Strike Title VI (earned legalization program)	**OPPOSE**	Failed 29-66 5/24
SA 1158	Coleman	Bar local agencies from forbidding inquiries regarding immigration status	**OPPOSE**	Failed 48-49 5/24
SA 1181	Dorgan	Sunset Y visa program 5 years after implemented	**OPPOSE**	Failed 48-49

		(except for Y-2b agricultural worker program)		5/24
Other Possible Amendments				
SA 1148	Dodd/ McCaskill	Bar employers convicted of employing unauthorized aliens from federal contracts for 5 years (cf. 2 years), without waiver		
SA 1149	McCaskill	Require Z visa holders seeking adjustment to plead guilty to misdemeanor and perform community service		
SA 1151	Inhofe	Declare English as national language; strike any non-statutory entitlement to non-English federal services or materials		
SA 1152	Baucus	Bar federal contracts for employers unless they verify compliance with bar on employing unauthorized aliens		
SA 1154	Collins	Bolster anti-fraud measures for H-1b visas		
SA 1155	Boxer	Terminate Y visa program if 15% of Y workers admitted during first two years fail to return		
SA 1156	Grassley	Increase H1-B fee from $1,500 to $2,000; 25% of fees go to Gifted and Talented Students Account		
SA 1159	Coleman	Facilitate US-Canada travel through enhanced driver's licenses and passport cards, special rule for minors		
SA 1160	Brownback	Remove one-day deadline for background checks for granting probationary status to Z visa applicants		
SA 1161	Alexander	"Strengthening American Citizenship Act": provide $500 cash grants for LPRs to pursue citizenship instruction; offer faster citizenship track for English fluency; fund programs for "patriotic integration"		
SA 1162	Alexander	Authorize GAO study on needs and costs of low English proficient immigrants		
SA 1163	Alexander	Establish award for business leadership in promoting American citizenship		
SA 1164	Alexander	Offer tax deductions for businesses that offer English instruction		
SA 1167	Cantwell	Set up Northern Border Prosecution Initiative to provide federal funds to jurisdictions on northern border that prosecute criminal cases that DOJ initiates but declines		
SA 1171	Hutchison	Amend triggers to require 17,500 total Border Patrol agents		
SA 1174	Thune	Bar probationary benefits for Z visa applicants until triggers are met		
SA 1177	Bingaman	Makes Y agricultural and forestry workers eligible for legal services		
SA 1178	Kerry	Sets up minimal notice and screening procedures for enforcement operations involving arrest and detention of 50 or more aliens		
SA 1179	Lautenberg	Allow adjustment of status for certain immigrant relatives of 9/11 victims		
SA 1180	Hagel/ Durbin	Repeal section 505 of IIRAIRA to enable states to grant in-state tuition to undocumented students		
SA 1182	Thomas	Authorize up to 5 new units of 15 customs patrol officers (Shadow Wolves) to operate on Indian reservations on border		
SA 1185	Obama	Add as trigger hiring 250 compliance officers and attorneys dedicated to enforcement of labor standards		
SA 1187	Allard	Require all Z visa applicants to disclose names and		

		social security numbers they had used		
SA 1188	Allard	Require DHS to report to SSA names and SSNs of all aliens to whom it grants employment authorization		
SA 1192	Hutchison	Authorize contracts with NGOs to implement Y and H-2a programs		
SA 1195	Ensign	Remove exception for US citizen child survivor benefits to general bar on Social Security credits for any numbers prior to enumeration		
SA 1196	DeMint	Grant CBP Commissioner discretion re all Border Patrol personnel matters		
SA 1197	DeMint	Require Z applicants to prove they will maintain health care insurance		
SA 1198	Boxer	Require reports on numbers of Y workers who do not return; decrease number of Y visas by this amount		
SA 1200	Gregg	Increase number of H-1B visas from 115,000 to 150,000 (215,000 cap for any fiscal year); remove H-1B cap for workers with advanced science degrees		
SA 1201	Allard	Amend loss of nationality provisions to include service in foreign armed group engaging in terrorism		
SA 1203	Cochran	Bars suspected terrorists from asylum, withholding, cancellation, voluntary departure, registry		
SA 1204	Cornyn	Changes definition of aggravated felony: -includes murder, rape or sexual abuse of minor even if elements are established by extrinsic evidence -includes most alien smuggling -includes unlawful entry or reentry if alien is sentenced to one year or more -broadens conspiracy provisions -counts convictions even if vacated due to failure to advise re immigration consequences of guilty plea or determination of guilt		
SA 1205	Cornyn	Bars finding of good moral character for suspected terrorists, persons who committed offenses that were not aggravated felonies at the time of conviction but are now; bars naturalization of any suspected terrorists or anyone in removal; limits review of naturalization delays		
SA 1206	Cornyn	Authorize DHS to disclose information from IRCA legalization applications for census and national security investigative purposes		
SA 1207	Cornyn	Include passport/document fraud in definition of racketeering		
SA 1208	Cornyn	Bars visas to countries that delay or prevent repatriation of deported nationals		
SA 1209	Cornyn	Bars class actions regarding immigration enforcement; limits injunctive relief; limits judicial review in cases involving expedited removal		
SA 1210	Cornyn	Broadens range of gang offenses to include any crime of violence (cf. punishable by 5 years imprisonment)		
SA 1211	Cornyn	Add to inadmissibility grounds Social Security fraud, citizenship fraud, firearms offenses, aggravated felonies, domestic violence; add Social Security fraud and citizenship fraud to deportability grounds		
SA 1212	Cornyn	Amend address change requirements, authorize DHS to cross-check various sources of address information, authorize detention and removal of address change and		

		consideration of failure to comply as negative factor regarding relief		
SA 1213	Cornyn	Bar refugees convicted of aggravated felonies from adjusting status		
SA 1214	Cornyn	Broaden definition of Social Security fraud; increase maximum sentence from 5 years to 10 years, mandate information sharing between SSA and federal law enforcement		
SA 1215	Cornyn	Deny judicial review of visa revocations		
SA 1216	Cornyn	Place burden of proof on alien seeking withholding of removal		
SA 1217	Cornyn	Clarify range of DHS decisions not subject to judicial review		
SA 1218	Cornyn	Require DOJ and FBI to provide DHS and State Department with access to NCIC databases		
SA 1219	Cornyn	Move family backlog cutoff date from May 1, 2005 to January 1, 2007		
SA 1220	Gregg	Increase number of H-1B visas from 115,000 to 150,000 (215,000 cap for any fiscal year); remove H-1b cap for workers with advanced science degrees (alternate version of SA 1200)		
SA 1221	Cardin	Extend SSI eligibility for refugees from 7 to 9 years through 9/30/2010		
SA 1222	Cornyn	Require disclosure of Z visa application information for criminal, civil, and national security investigations and prosecutions; void confidentiality protections after application is finally denied or regarding use for removal or criminal or civil case based on post-grant violations; authorize disclosure of criminal convictions		
SA 1224	Coburn	Make Z visa holders ineligible for public benefits until five years after they adjust status		
SA 1225	Levin	Allow waiver of ineligibility for Z visas based on prior removal for certain aliens who filed for asylum before 12/31/2004 and were denied due to changed country conditions		
SA 1226	Levin	Award 20 points to certain aliens who filed for asylum before 12/31/2004		
SA 1227	Levin	Enable certain aliens who filed for asylum before 12/31/2004 to adjust status		
SA 1228	Levin	Require annual report on cases delayed by security and background checks		
SA 1229	Sununu	Provide 72 hours for background checks before DHS issues probationary status for Z visa applicants		
SA 1230	Cornyn	Strike use of sworn affidavits as evidence of continuous physical presence for Z visa applicants		
SA 1232	Hutchison	Require payments to Y workers who leave US due to job loss of amount of Social Security contributions, upon request to US consulate		
SA 1233	Hutchison	Enable Z visa holders to gain credit for past SS contributions if the number was valid and the immigrant was in valid status		
SA 1236	Baucus	Strike requirements that drivers licenses comply with REAL ID to serve as valid identification; strike State Records Improvement Grant Program (section 306)		
SA 1237	Bingaman	Change maximum extension of Z visa filing period from 12 months to 2 years		

SA 1238	Cornyn	Increase annual authorization for Border Relief Grant Program from $50M to $100M		
SA 1239	Ensign	Strike section 709 (online English learning program)		
SA 1240	Cochran	Strike section 104 (authorization for additional ports of entry and improvements)		
SA 1241	Cochran	Make secure communication provisions subject to availability and appropriations		
SA 1242	Lieberman	Exempt from H-1B cap those with medical specialty certification or MA in science, technology, engineering, or math; enable aliens with pending employment-based petitions to file for adjustment even if visa is not available		
SA 1243	Obama	Sunset point system and restore preference system after 5 years (save supplemental allocation of immigrant visas for Z visa holders) (rewrite of SA 1202)		
SA 1244	Cornyn	Clarify use of State Impact Assistance Fee		
SA 1245	Cornyn	Increase State Impact Assistance Fee for Y visas from $500 to $750, decrease dependent fee from $250 to $100, remove $1,500 family cap		
SA 1246	Cornyn	Increase State Impact Assistance Fee for Z visas from $500 to $750, plus $100 for each dependent		
SA 1248	Ensign	Bars Z visa holders from receiving tax refunds or EITC for years prior to 2006		
SA 1251	Conrad	Authorize Peace Garden Pass for travel by US citizens between North Dakota and Canada		
SA 1252	Feinstein	Subject Z applicants who make false statements to federal perjury persecution		
SA 1253	Sessions	Move eligibility date for Z visas to May 1, 2005 from January 2007		
SA 1254	Sessions	Bar Z visa holders from adjusting status		
SA 1255	Bond	Bar Z visa holders from getting immigrant visas		
SA 1256	Dorgan	Extend federal jurisdiction for felony child neglect on Indian territories		