



FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Yes! We are here. Today we initiate another association with you... another way to keep in touch... **Immigration Monitor**. It is not just another newsletter. It is a relationship; the commencement of a new journey to provide you with the latest happenings of the month and a plethora of information related to global immigration.

This year is half-way through, and the last six months have seen a lot of activity on the immigration front. For U.S. employers, the new year brought some relief from H-1B Cap issues, in the form of 20,000 additional visas, exempted from the annual cap. Though this was a welcome step, it came at a cost. The Appropriations Act, 2004 made H-1B and L-1 filings more expensive.

Another major activity was the signing of the Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act, including the controversial REAL ID Act. We cover the major highlights of the Appropriations Act in our [In Focus](#) section.

We at the **Immigration Monitor** look forward to your comments, suggestions, and most of all your encouragement. Please send us your feedback on this first issue of **Immigration Monitor**, including your valuable suggestions.

I look forward to a wonderful journey in your company.

Christine

NEWS THIS MONTH

[It is official now; USCIS reaches H-1B Cap for FY 2006](#)

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) announced today that it has received enough H-1B petitions to meet the congressionally mandated cap for fiscal year 2006. USCIS has determined that the "final receipt date" is August 10, 2005.

[Senators Cornyn and Kyl introduce Immigration Reform bill](#)

The bill contains provisions for border enforcement and security, worksite enforcement, temporary worker program and visa backlog reduction, among other things.

[E-3 visa update: DOL issues guidance for filing of LCA](#)

The U.S. Department of Labor published a notice in the Federal Register earlier this month providing initial guidance governing the filing of applications for labor certification under

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YOUR OPINION

Should the annual H-1B cap limit be raised from the existing 65,000 visas?

- a. Yes
- b. No

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IMMIGRATION QUIZ

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Submit your answer to the query below. The best response will be published in the next **Immigration Monitor** and the winner will receive a **FREE Online Consultation** from an Experienced VisaPro Immigration Attorney.

the E-3 work visa program.

[DOS Cable on nonimmigrant interviews](#)

The new section 222(h) added to the Immigration and Nationality Act by the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act (IRTPA) sets out requirements for the non-immigrant interview and the circumstances in which it can be waived.

[Read More News](#)

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IN FOCUS

New provisions under Emergency Appropriations Act

The Appropriations Bill containing supplemental appropriations for Defense, the Global War on Terror and Tsunami relief became a public law when the President George W. Bush signed the Bill on May 11, 2005. With the signing of this bill the controversial Real ID Act provisions also become effective.

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I hold a 10 year US tourist visa. I want to do a summer course in the US. I don't want to lose my visitor visa status as it is difficult to get it back in India. I want to know if it is okay to study on my tourist visa. I want to know if it is possible and safe to do so.

[Submit Your Answer](#)

Immigration
Problem?

Get an Answer
Online!



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INDUSTRY PERSPECTIVE

Tight H-1B & L-1 visa rules hurt U.S. business, say companies

Tight visa rules and their impact on the U.S. economy and business is a subject that never fails to spark controversy. The recent changes to the H-1B and L-1 visas rules have been a flashpoint of debate in the Tech Industry.

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IMMIGRATION ARTICLE

[How to avoid a visa denial?](#)

To be refused a visa when you are not expecting it causes great disappointment and sometimes embarrassment. What does a 214(b) visa refusal mean? And what can applicants and friends do to prepare for a visa reapplication?

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PROCESSING TIMES

▶ [Visa Bulletin](#)

▶ [USCIS Processing Times](#)

▶ [DOL Processing Times](#)

▶ [Local USCIS Offices](#)

IMMIGRATION GLOSSARY

Accompanying Relative

Foreign nationals who are eligible to receive a nonimmigrant visa or a [green cards](#) may also obtain a nonimmigrant visa or Green Card for their immediate family members. Accompanying relatives may only include spouse and unmarried children under the age of 21 who will be traveling with the foreign national.

Advance Parole

Advance Parole is permission for certain aliens, who do not have a valid immigrant visa, to re-enter the United States after traveling abroad. Such aliens must be approved for Advance Parole before leaving the United States. If they have not obtained Advance Parole prior to traveling abroad, they will not be permitted to re-enter the United States upon their return.

Affidavit of Support (I-864)

If you are bringing a relative to live permanently in the United States, you must accept legal responsibility for financially supporting this family member. You accept this responsibility and become your relative's sponsor by completing and signing a document called an [Affidavit of Support](#). This legally enforceable responsibility lasts until your relative becomes a U.S. citizen or can be credited with 40 quarters of work (usually 10 years.)

[More Terms](#)

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DISCUSSION CORNER

[H1b Approved - Needed Help for Stamping](#)

By lokesh (Junior Member)

[creative solution for J1 change to H2-B ...please help](#)

By Lukas (Junior Member)

[help ! how do i forfeit a fiance visa I -129f](#)

By mariz0322 (Junior Member)

[More Discussions](#)

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IMMIGRATION FAQ

1. [What is H-4 dependent visa?](#)

The H-4 dependent visa is a nonimmigrant visa which allows the dependent spouse and children of principal H visa holders to enter into the U.S.

2. [What privileges do I enjoy on H4 visa?](#)

On H-4 visa, you may:

Enter into the U.S. along with your spouse or join him/her later

Not have to maintain a foreign residence

Travel in and out of the U.S. or remain in the U.S. continuously as long as you are in the status

Study in any U.S. university

3. [How long can I stay in the U.S. on H4 visa?](#)

Your H-4 status depends on the status of the principal H visa status. You lose your status once the H loses status.

[More FAQ](#)

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SUCCESS STORIES

"I am thrilled at the level of service I received from VisaPro!

Their attention to detail, their quick responses to questions, and the personal attention they gave each one of our visa applicants was overwhelming.

VisaPro help take the confusion and frustration out of the visa application process. They explained each step and what was required. They helped us with documentation and made sure that it was consistent with our application. They took the time to make sure everything was right, yet was able to make the deadlines and time restrictions the INS imposed upon us.

I cannot say enough about the friendly staff and lawyers who never hesitated to be there for us. They basically held our hand through the whole process.

We had tried to do visa applications ourselves. The value of VisaPro and the time they saved us was well worth the cost.

We will be using VisaPro for all our staffing needs when obtaining a visa is required."

Susan Reichard, HR Manager
[Monona Catering](#)

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