

S 2632

Visa Processing Improvement Act

Congress: 118 (2023–2025, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Immigration

Introduced: Jul 27, 2023

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. (Jul 27, 2023)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/senate-bill/2632>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Klobuchar, Amy [D-MN]

Party: Democratic • State: MN • Chamber: Senate

Cosponsors (1 total)

| Cosponsor | Party / State | Role | Date Joined |
|--------------------------|---------------|------|--------------|
| Sen. Moran, Jerry [R-KS] | R · KS | | Jul 27, 2023 |

Committee Activity

| Committee | Chamber | Activity | Date |
|---------------------|---------|-------------|--------------|
| Judiciary Committee | Senate | Referred To | Jul 27, 2023 |

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Immigration

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Visa Processing Improvement Act

This bill establishes measures to reduce processing times for certain nonimmigrant visas.

The bill authorizes domestic renewal of an unexpired B (temporary visitor) visa.

The bill also expands the authority of the Department of State to waive mandatory in-person interviews for certain nonimmigrant visa applicants, including for eligible individuals who (1) have previously traveled to the United States through the Visa Waiver Program, or (2) are renewing a visa less than 48 months after its expiration date. The bill also authorizes interviews for certain B visa applications to be conducted remotely (i.e., via teleconference technology) subject to various requirements, including requirements related to security.

If a first-time visa applicant is eligible for a waiver of the in-person interview requirement, that individual may pay for expedited processing of that application.

The bill also requires the State Department to establish, via rulemaking, standards for consulates for nonimmigrant visa processing times. The State Department must also assist consulates that do not meet these standards. Such assistance may include increasing staffing and implementing technological upgrades. Consulates must make interview wait time data publicly available and regularly update this information.

The bill also expands the Consular Fellows Program by 5% per year through FY2030 and requires fellows to be trained to conduct visa interviews in English.

Actions Timeline

- **Jul 27, 2023:** Introduced in Senate
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