

S 1298

Religious Workforce Protection Act

Congress: 119 (2025–2027, Current)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Immigration

Introduced: Apr 3, 2025

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

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. (Apr 3, 2025)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/119th-congress/senate-bill/1298>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Kaine, Tim [D-VA]

Party: Democratic • **State:** VA • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (7 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Collins, Susan M. [R-ME]	R · ME		Apr 3, 2025
Sen. Risch, James E. [R-ID]	R · ID		Apr 3, 2025
Sen. Graham, Lindsey [R-SC]	R · SC		May 15, 2025
Sen. Coons, Christopher A. [D-DE]	D · DE		May 21, 2025
Sen. Murkowski, Lisa [R-AK]	R · AK		Jun 12, 2025
Sen. Crapo, Mike [R-ID]	R · ID		Jun 17, 2025
Sen. Klobuchar, Amy [D-MN]	D · MN		Dec 17, 2025

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Judiciary Committee	Senate	Referred To	Apr 3, 2025

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Immigration

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
119 HR 2672	Identical bill	Apr 7, 2025: Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary.

Religious Workforce Protection Act

This bill allows the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to extend the nonimmigrant visa status of certain religious workers.

Under current law, if specified conditions are met, nonimmigrant religious workers may receive a visa for a period not to exceed five years. The bill allows DHS to grant an extension until the individual's application for adjustment of status to permanent resident or an immigrant visa has been processed and a decision has been made. To be eligible for the extension, the individual must be (1) the beneficiary of a certain type of immigrant petition, and (2) eligible for such immigrant status absent the application of certain numerical limitations.

Such individuals who have pending adjustment of status applications are also granted certain job flexibilities, such as the ability to change employers. Individuals who have previously departed the U.S. due to the expiration of their visa are exempt from the one-year foreign residence requirement to renew their visa.

