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BASHYAM SPIRO^{LLP} | IMMIGRATION
LAW GROUP

Immigration News Update

December 2011

Happy Holidays and New Year!

We finally had some good immigration news this year, the [Fairness for High Skilled Immigrants Act](#) passed the House of Representatives by an overwhelming majority. The bill, if ultimately passed by the Senate and signed by the President, would eliminate per-country limits on employment-based preference categories.

With some high-skilled workers waiting well over a decade for residency, this is a great start!

The immigration community expected this bill to pass easily in the Democratically-controlled Senate. Unfortunately, the optimism was short-lived. Citing concerns about protecting American workers, [Senator Charles Grassley \(R\) immediately put a 'hold'](#) on the bill.

Senator Grassley, and others like him, are extremely short-sighted about the immigration issue. Do they know that nearly one in four U.S. companies have at least one foreign founder? Does he know how many jobs these companies create?

All one has to do is look at Google, Yahoo, and many others, and the answer is obvious!

The longer it takes professionals to go through the residency process, the more likely it is that they will leave the U.S. and take their talent and ambition elsewhere. That is not good for the long-term competitiveness of the United States.

We keep hearing about illegal immigrants who don't 'play by the rules.' This bill, if passed into law, will help immigrants who actually *played by the rules* for decades. Instead of penalizing them for it, we should change the 'rules' that don't work and help them out.

In an election year, it's hard to predict what will happen. But let's hope that the Fairness for High-Skilled Immigrants Act gets signed into law in 2012. It will be good for our country.

In the meantime, everyone at Bashyam Spiro wants to wish all of our clients and friends a very Happy Holiday Season and New Year. We wish you the best for 2012!

Murali Bashyam, Esq.

EB-2 Moves Forward to January 2009

U.S. Department of State released the [January 2012 Visa Bulletin](#).

Here's a breakdown of how things have changed since December 2011.

Employment-Based Category Two (EB-2):

China – advanced 9 1/2 months

India – advanced 9 1/2 months

Employment-Based Category Three (EB-3):

All Other Chargeability Areas – advanced 1 month

China – advanced 1 month and 7 days

India – advanced 7 days

Philippines – advanced 15 days

Mexico – advanced 15 days

We are encouraged by the significant movement in the EB-2 category for India and China. This will likely make many applicants in that category 'current' in January 2012.

Stay tuned to www.bashyamspiro.com for additional updates.

Tammy Lynn Center for Developmental Disabilities

As many of you know, our Managing Partner, [Murli Bashyam](#), is on the [board](#) at the [Tammy Lynn Center for Developmental Disabilities](#) (TLC). The staff at Bashyam Spiro has also volunteered at the center in the past.

During this holiday season, we ask that you keep the Tammy Lynn Center for Developmental Disabilities in mind for any charitable giving.

The difference you can make is clear.

For all of these children and their families, their world is forever changed by the [education, care and therapy](#) they receive from Tammy Lynn.

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Message

Welcome to Immigration News Update, your resource for the latest developments in U.S. immigration laws, procedures, and breaking news. Immigration News Update is published monthly Bashyam Spiro LLP - Immigration Law Group, a firm committed solely to the practice of Immigration and Nationality Law. To further explore what is happening in immigration across our nation and the world visit us at www.bashyamspiro.com

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During this season of giving, we hope that you can [support](#) the vital [programs](#) of Tammy Lynn Center. A gift in any amount will be gratefully received.

All gifts received between now and December 31st will be matched by an anonymous donor up to \$50,000.

You can donate [HERE](#).

Gifts benefit the Tammy Lynn Memorial Foundation which supports the following programs and services of Tammy Lynn Center for Developmental Disabilities: Respite Care, Early Childhood Intervention Services, Community Residential and Non-Medicaid Day Services.

Good Immigration Blog Posts

Our staff has written some excellent [blog posts](#) on immigration in the past few weeks.

Have you ever seen the [Comments](#) section after an article about U.S. immigration?

It is an unabated flow of vitriolic lava!

[Pam Prather](#) writes a thought provoking [blog](#) about the complexity of the illegal immigration issue, as well as the unfortunate ugliness inherent in the immigration debate in this country.

Pam also wrote a blog discussing some major topics in immigration 2011. If you want a recap and an opinion on what lies head, read Pam's blog [HERE](#).

Lastly, our Senior Counsel, [Ame Coats](#), writes an interesting blog about how a simple phone call helped get a National Interest Waiver case approved! Read Ame's blog [HERE](#).

Upcoming Events

There are no upcoming events scheduled for the rest of 2011. However, we have selected topics for our Webinars in January and February!

- January - *The H-1B Cap is Done - What Are Your Options?* CLICK [HERE](#) to REGISTER!
- February - *Immigration Legislation Update (Incl. HR 3012)*

We will publish registration information on our website at www.bashyamspiro.com in the coming weeks.

If there is a specific immigration topic you would like us to cover in a webinar or seminar format, let us know. You can email your ideas to info@bashyamspiro.com. We would love to hear from you!

Closing Headline

Downloadable Resources at www.bashyamspiro.com



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