

## H.R. 9545 – the Visa Processing Improvement and Paperwork Reduction Act

This bill improves visa processing by reducing the need to mail physical copies of documents that are already submitted electronically, easing the burden on applicants and saving the State Department significant time and resources.

## Key Points:

- This bill reduces the paperwork burden on families applying for certain visas.
- This bill saves the State Department significant resources and labor by removing a requirement that they mail physical copies of certain forms to individuals that are already being sent electronically.

## **Specific Provisions:**

- 1. Section 2 of H.R. 9545 allows K visa applicants to just email documents in for their application, as opposed to having to email AND mail a physical copy (which the current system requires). This would reduce the paperwork and mail burden on the applicant.
- 2. Section 3 of H.R. 9545 saves State Department resources by allowing them to communicate by email and satisfying Immigration and Nationality Act (INA) Section 222 nonimmigrant and immigrant visa application requirements. Currently they send an email and a physical copy – which is a major time and resource drain. This would be a huge resource saver for the State Department.

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**Background:** Many sections of the Immigration and Nationality Act dealing with Visa processing require physical documents to be mailed, as they were written before the internet existed. Currently, all visa applications must be filed electronically anyway, so requiring duplicate physical copies to be mailed uses significant federal time and resources.