

American Immigration Lawyers Association (Midyear Meeting 1989)

BE IT RESOLVED, That the American Bar Association supports amendments to the Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952, as previously amended, in order to further reform the basis upon which foreign nationals may seek lawful permanent resident status in the United States on a humane and equitable basis that reflects the historic emphasis on both family reunification and the economic and cultural interests of the United States. Specifically, the American Bar Association supports:

- 1) retention of the basic structure of present preference categories for family members of U.S. citizens and lawful permanent resident aliens, and for prospective employees of U.S. employers who have proved the unavailability of qualified U.S. workers;
- 2) increased visa numbers for both the family - related and employment - related preferences;
- 3) a special increase in visa numbers for the second preference dependents of lawful permanent residents or other relief for the immediate dependents of lawful permanent residents legalized under the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986;
- 4) a separate additional quota allotment for independent or unsponsored immigrants based on a nondiscriminatory selection system or lottery, or both, to create a basis for unsponsored immigration in addition to family or employer sponsored preferences, and annual reports by the General Account Office (GAO) on the operation of such program(s).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the American Bar Association specifically opposes any overall numerical limitation which would reduce visa numbers from the non - family related preference categories by the number of visas issued to immediate relatives of U.S. citizens.