

**Related Services**

Immigration

## November Visa Bulletin Includes Information on Extension of Religious Workers Category, Visa Availability in Employment Second Category

**Legal Update**

11.14.2022

*This article was prepared with the assistance of ABIL, the Alliance of Business Immigration Lawyers, of which Loan Huynh, Fredrikson Immigration Department Chair, is a member.*

The Department of State's Visa Bulletin for November 2022 includes the following information:

### Employment Fourth Preference (SR) Religious Workers Category Extended

H.R. 6833, enacted on September 30, 2022, extended the Employment Fourth Preference Certain Religious Workers (SR) category until December 16, 2022. No SR visas may be issued overseas, or final action taken on adjustment of status cases, after midnight December 15, 2022. Visas issued prior to that date will be valid only until December 15, 2022, and all individuals seeking admission in the non-minister special immigrant category must be admitted (repeat admitted) into the United States no later than midnight December 15, 2022.

The SR category is subject to the same final action dates as the other Employment Fourth Preference categories per applicable foreign state of chargeability.

### Visa Availability in the Employment Second Category

Increased demand in the Employment Second category may necessitate the establishment of a worldwide final action date in the coming months to hold number use within the maximum allowed under the Fiscal Year 2023 annual limit. This situation will be continually monitored, and any necessary adjustments will be made accordingly.