

BELIZE:

IMMIGRATION (AMENDMENT) ACT, 2017

ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

1. Short title.
2. Insertion of section 10A.
3. Amendment of section 12.
4. Amendment of section 13.
5. Amendment of section 26A.



No. 46 of 2017

I assent,

(SIR COLVILLE N. YOUNG)

Governor-General

2nd November, 2017

AN ACT to amend the Immigration Act, Chapter 156 of the Substantive Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2011 in relation to temporary residency; to include the Chief Executive Officer of the Ministry responsible for labour on the Visa Vetting Committee and clarify the role of the Chief Executive Officer of the Ministry responsible for the Police on the Committee; and to provide for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

(Gazetted 4th November, 2017.)

BE IT ENACTED, by and with the advice and consent of the House of Representatives and Senate of Belize and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1. This Act may be cited as the

Short title and
construction.

IMMIGRATION (AMENDMENT) ACT, 2017,

and shall be read and construed as one with the Immigration Act, which is hereinafter referred to as the principal Act.

Insertion of
section 10A.

2. The principal Act is amended by inserting immediately after section 10 the following section -

“Temporary
Residence.

10A.-(1) A person who meets the requirements of subsection (2) as applicable, and subsection (3), may apply to the Director of Immigration and Nationality Services to be granted temporary residency in Belize.

(2) Any person who is a qualifying dependent of an applicant may apply along with the applicant as a dependent applicant.

(3) An application under this section shall be made in the prescribed form and be accompanied by documents referred to in the following paragraphs, in relation to the applicant -

- a)* passport of foreign country of which applicant is citizen;
- b)* a Police Record issued by the last country of residence dated not more than six months from the date of the application;
- c)* a letter to the Director explaining the applicant's reason for requesting temporary residency;
- d)* evidence of a primary place of residence in Belize, with at least one of the following in relation to the residence -

- (i) rental (or lease) agreement and utility bill; or
 - (ii) property title and property tax assessment by municipal authority;” and
- e) details and evidence of investments in Belize valued at not less than \$500,000.00 dollars, along with the following in relation to the applicant’s presence in Belize-
 - (i) title of real estate ownership;
 - (ii) business or personal bank statements;
 - (iii) company registration certificate or other certification showing the interest of applicant in a corporate body as owner of the body or of a majority or controlling interest;
 - (iv) trade licence;
 - (v) social security registration or card;

(vi) general sales tax returns;

(vii) income tax returns; and

(4) Upon the approval of an application under this section, the applicant shall pay the prescribed annual temporary residency fee, prior to receiving the permit for temporary residency.”.

Amendment of section 12.

3. The principal Act is amended in section 12, by inserting immediately after the words “permanent residency” the words “ or temporary residency”.

Amendment of section 13 of principal Act.

4. The principal Act is amended in section 13 by,

(a) In paragraph (f), substitute a semi-colon for the full-stop; and

(b) inserting next after paragraph (f) the following -

(g) temporary residence permit.”

Amendment of section 26A.

5. The principal Act is amended in section 26A (1), by,

(a) deleting from paragraph (c) the words “national security; and”, and substituting therefor the words “the Police”;

(b) deleting the full stop at the end of paragraph (d) and substituting therefor a semi-colon and the word “and”;

(c) inserting next after paragraph (d) the following,

“(e) the Chief Executive Officer of the Ministry responsible for labour.”