

end date, the visa program was extended through September 30, 2008, by Public Law 108–449. The regulations for administering the program became obsolete upon the expiration of the program in 2008. The Department is therefore removing the program-related regulations at 22 CFR part 139, and the corresponding visa regulations at 22 CFR part 41, including sections 41.57(b), 41.101(f), and the obsolete classification codes for Q2 and Q3 visas at 22 CFR 41.12.

### Regulatory Findings

#### *Administrative Procedure Act*

This rule is issued without prior notice and opportunity to comment, with an immediate effective date, pursuant to the Administrative Procedure Act (APA), 5 U.S.C. 553(b) and (d). Under 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(B), agencies are exempt from notice and comment rulemaking when an agency finds for good cause that “notice and public procedures are impracticable, unnecessary, or contrary to the public interest.” The APA also authorizes agencies to dispose of a 30-day delay in effective date and make a rule effective immediately upon a showing of good cause. 5 U.S.C. 553(d)(3). The Department finds that good cause exists both to waive prior notice and comment and the 30-day delay of effective date on this rule because public comment is unnecessary. This program ended on September 30, 2008, making this rule obsolete. The program to which the rule relates is no longer authorized. Therefore, in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 553(b) and (d), this rule is effective immediately and is not subject to the notice-and-comment rule making procedures set forth in 5 U.S.C. 553.

#### *Regulatory Flexibility Act/Executive Order 13272: Small Business*

Because this final rule is exempt from notice and comment rulemaking under 5 U.S.C. 553, it is exempt from the regulatory flexibility analysis requirements set forth by the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 603 and 604).

#### *Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995*

This rule will not result in the expenditure by State, local, and tribal governments, in the aggregate, or by the private sector, of \$100 million or more in any year and it will not significantly or uniquely affect small governments. Therefore, no actions were deemed necessary under the provisions of the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995.

#### *Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996*

This rule is not a major rule as defined in 5 U.S.C. 804, for purposes of congressional review of agency rulemaking under the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996. This rule will not result in an annual effect on the economy of \$100 million or more; a major increase in costs or prices; or adverse effects on competition, employment, investment, productivity, innovation, or the ability of United States-based companies to compete with foreign-based companies in domestic and import markets.

#### *Executive Order 12866 and 13771: Reducing Regulation and Controlling Regulatory Costs*

The Department does not consider this rule to be a “significant regulatory action” under Executive Order 12866, section 3(f), Regulatory Planning and Review. The Department has nevertheless reviewed the regulation to ensure its consistency with the regulatory philosophy and principles set forth in that Executive Order with the guidance therein. This rule withdraws defunct regulations and thus will not impose any costs on the public. This rule is an E.O. 13771 deregulatory action.

#### *Executive Orders 12372 and 13132: Federalism*

This rulemaking will not have substantial direct effects on the States, on the relationship between the national government and the States, or the distribution of power and responsibilities among the various levels of government. Nor will the rule have federalism implications warranting the application of Executive Orders 12372 and 13132.

#### *Executive Order 13175: Consultation and Coordination With Indian Tribal Governments*

The Department has determined that this rulemaking will not have tribal implications, will not impose substantial direct compliance costs on Indian tribal governments, and will not preempt tribal law. Accordingly, the requirements of Section 5 of Executive Order 13175 do not apply to this rulemaking.

#### *Paperwork Reduction Act*

This rule does not impose or revise any reporting or record-keeping requirements subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act, 44 U.S.C. chapter 35.

### List of Subjects

#### *22 CFR Part 41*

Aliens, Nonimmigrants, Passports, Visas.

#### *22 CFR Part 139*

Aliens, Passports, Visas.

Accordingly, for the reasons set forth in the preamble, 22 CFR parts 41 and 139 are amended as follows:

### **PART 41—VISAS: DOCUMENTATION OF NONIMMIGRANTS UNDER THE IMMIGRATION AND NATIONALITY ACT, AS AMENDED**

■ 1. The authority citation for Part 41 continues to read as follows:

**Authority:** 22 U.S.C. 2651a; 8 U.S.C. 1104; Pub. L. 105–277, 112 Stat. 2681–795 through 2681–801; 8 U.S.C. 1185 note (section 7209 of Pub. L. 108–458, as amended by section 546 of Pub. L. 109–295).

#### **§ 41.12 [Amended]**

■ 2. In § 41.12 amend the table by removing the classification symbols for Q2 and Q3.

■ 3. Amend § 41.57 by revising the section heading and removing and reserving paragraph (b) to read as follows:

#### **§ 41.57 International cultural exchange visitors.**

\* \* \* \* \*

#### **§ 41.101 [Amended]**

■ 4. Amend § 41.101 by removing and reserving paragraph (f).

### **PART 139—[REMOVED AND RESERVED]**

■ 5. Under the authority of Public Law 105–319, 112 Stat. 3013; 22 U.S.C. 2651a, remove and reserve part 139.

**Carl C. Risch,**

*Assistant Secretary, Consular Affairs,  
Department of State.*

[FR Doc. 2020–12649 Filed 6–25–20; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4710–06–P**

## **DEPARTMENT OF STATE**

### **22 CFR Part 42**

**[Public Notice: 11105]**

**RIN 1400–AE55**

### **Removal of Regulations Related to Immigrant Visas for Certain Expatriates**

**AGENCY:** Department of State.

**ACTION:** Final rule.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with Executive Orders 13771 and 13777, which direct

federal agencies to review and eliminate outdated and unnecessary regulations, the Department of State (Department) is removing a regulation related to issuance of immigrant visas to women expatriates who lost citizenship as the result of marrying an alien prior to 1922.

**DATES:** This rule is effective on June 26, 2020.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Taylor Beaumont, Acting Chief, Legislation and Regulations Division, Legal Affairs, Office of Visa Services, Bureau of Consular Affairs, 600 19th Street NW, Washington, DC 20522, 202-485-8910, [VisaRegs@state.gov](mailto:VisaRegs@state.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Department has identified a regulation relating to defunct immigrant visa classifications for certain former U.S. citizens that is unnecessary. As a result of Section 3 of the Act of March 2, 1907, 34 Stat. 1228, some U.S. citizen women lost their United States citizenship as a result of a marriage prior September 22, 1922. This provision was repealed by the Cable Act of 1922, 42 Stat. 1022.

Between 1907 and 1922, some U.S. citizen women lost their U.S. citizenship due to their marriage to an alien, or to a U.S. citizen who acquired another citizenship. Department regulations at 22 CFR 42.23(a) described an immigrant visa classification that was available to such women. The last visa issued in this category was issued in 1998, and it is unlikely that any person eligible for this category is still living. Therefore, the Department is removing this unnecessary regulation.

**Regulatory Findings**

*Administrative Procedure Act*

This rule is issued without prior notice and opportunity to comment, with an immediate effective date, pursuant to the Administrative Procedure Act (APA), 5 U.S.C. 553(b) and (d). Under 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(B), agencies are exempt from notice and comment rulemaking when an agency finds for good cause that “notice and public procedures are impracticable, unnecessary, or contrary to the public interest.” The APA also authorizes agencies to dispose of a 30-day delay in effective date and make a rule effective immediately upon a showing of good cause. 5 U.S.C. 553(d)(3). The Department finds that good cause exists both to waive prior notice and comment and the 30-day delay of effective date on this rule because both are unnecessary. The last visa issued within this category was in 1998, and it is unlikely that eligible individuals are still living, making this rule both outdated and unnecessary. As a result, removal of

this rule is insignificant in nature and impact, and inconsequential to the public. Therefore, in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 553(b) and (d), this rule is effective immediately and is not subject to the notice-and-comment rule making procedures set forth in 5 U.S.C. 553.

*Regulatory Flexibility Act/Executive Order 13272: Small Business*

Because this final rule is exempt from notice and comment rulemaking under 5 U.S.C. 553, it is exempt from the regulatory flexibility analysis requirements set forth by the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 603 and 604).

*Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995*

This rule will not result in the expenditure by State, local, and tribal governments, in the aggregate, or by the private sector, of \$100 million or more in any year and it will not significantly or uniquely affect small governments. Therefore, no actions were deemed necessary under the provisions of the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995.

*Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996*

This rule is not a major rule as defined in 5 U.S.C. 804, for purposes of congressional review of agency rulemaking under the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996. This rule will not result in an annual effect on the economy of \$100 million or more; a major increase in costs or prices; or adverse effects on competition, employment, investment, productivity, innovation, or the ability of United States-based companies to compete with foreign-based companies in domestic and import markets.

*Executive Order 12866 and 13771: Reducing Regulation and Controlling Regulatory Costs*

The Department does not consider this rule to be a “significant regulatory action” under Executive Order 12866, section 3(f), Regulatory Planning and Review. The Department has nevertheless reviewed the regulation to ensure its consistency with the regulatory philosophy and principles set forth in that Executive Order with the guidance therein. This rule withdraws defunct regulations and will not impose any costs on the public. This rule is an E.O. 13771 deregulatory action.

*Executive Orders 12372 and 13132: Federalism*

This regulation will not have substantial direct effects on the States, on the relationship between the national government and the States, or the

distribution of power and responsibilities among the various levels of government. Nor will the rule have federalism implications warranting the application of Executive Orders 12372 and 13132.

*Executive Order 13175: Consultation and Coordination With Indian Tribal Governments*

The Department has determined that this rulemaking will not have tribal implications, will not impose substantial direct compliance costs on Indian tribal governments, and will not preempt tribal law. Accordingly, the requirements of Section 5 of Executive Order 13175 do not apply to this rulemaking.

*Paperwork Reduction Act*

This rulemaking does not impose or revise any reporting or record-keeping requirements subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act, 44 U.S.C. chapter 35.

**List of Subjects in 22 CFR Part 42**

Aliens, Immigrants, Passports, Visas.

Accordingly, for the reasons set forth in the preamble, 22 CFR part 42 is amended as follows:

**PART 42—VISAS: DOCUMENTATION OF IMMIGRANTS UNDER THE IMMIGRATION AND NATIONALITY ACT, AS AMENDED**

- 1. The authority citation for part 42 continues to read as follows:

**Authority:** 8 U.S.C. 1104 and 1182; Pub. L. 105-277; Pub. L. 108-449; 112 Stat. 2681-795 through 2681-801; The Convention on Protection of Children and Co-operation in Respect of Intercountry Adoption (done at the Hague, May 29, 1993), S. Treaty Doc. 105-51 (1998), 1870 U.N.T.S. 167 (Reg. No. 31922 (1993)); 42 U.S.C. 14901-14954, Pub. L. 106-279; Pub. L. 111-287; 8 U.S.C. 1101, 124 Stat. 3058; 8 U.S.C. 1154, Pub. Law 109-162.

**§ 42.23 [Amended]**

- 2. Amend § 42.23 by removing and reserving paragraph (a).

\* \* \* \* \*

**Carl C. Risch,**

*Assistant Secretary, Consular Affairs,  
Department of State.*

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