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FILE:



Office: National Benefits Center

Date:

FEB 02 2004

IN RE: Applicant:



APPLICATION: Application for Status as a Permanent Resident pursuant to Section 1104 of the Legal Immigration Family Equity (LIFE) Act of 2000, Pub. L. 106-553, 114 Stat. 2762 (2000), *amended by* Life Act Amendments, Pub. L. 106-554, 114 Stat. 2763 (2000).

ON BEHALF OF APPLICANT:

Self-represented

INSTRUCTIONS:

This is the decision of the Administrative Appeals Office in your case. The file has been returned to the National Benefits Center. If your appeal was sustained, or if the matter was remanded for further action, you will be contacted. If your appeal was dismissed, you no longer have a case pending before this office, and you are not entitled to file a motion to reopen or reconsider your case.

Robert P. Wiemann, Director
Administrative Appeals Office

DISCUSSION: The application for permanent resident status under the Legal Immigration Family Equity (LIFE) Act was initially denied by the Director, Missouri Service Center. It was reopened and denied again by the Director, National Benefits Center. It is now on appeal before the Administrative Appeals Office (AAO). The appeal will be dismissed.

The directors concluded the applicant had not established that he had applied for class membership in any of the requisite legalization class-action lawsuits prior to October 1, 2000 and, therefore, denied the application.

On appeal, the applicant asserts that he "applied for the SAW law and was told by the INS officer in the Denver office that I qualified for the LIFE law."

An applicant for permanent resident status under section 1104 of the LIFE Act must establish that before October 1, 2000, he or she filed a written claim with the Attorney General for class membership in one of the following legalization class-action lawsuits: *Catholic Social Services, Inc. v. Meese*, vacated sub nom. *Reno v. Catholic Social Services, Inc.*, 509 U.S. 43 (1993) ("CSS"), *League of United Latin American Citizens v. INS*, vacated sub nom. *Reno v. Catholic Social Services, Inc.*, 509 U.S. 43 (1993) ("LULAC"), or *Zambrano v. INS*, vacated sub nom. *Immigration and Naturalization Service v. Zambrano*, 509 U.S. 918 (1993) ("Zambrano"). See section 1104(b) of the LIFE Act and 8 C.F.R. § 245a.10.

The regulations provide an illustrative list of documents that an applicant may submit to establish that he or she filed a written claim for class membership before October 1, 2000. Those regulations also permit the submission of "[a]ny other relevant document(s)." See 8 C.F.R. § 245a.14.

The applicant filed a timely application for temporary resident status as a special agricultural worker (SAW) under section 210 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA) on April 25, 1988. The application was denied on March 26, 1990. The decision was appealed by the applicant, but the appeal was dismissed by this office on October 6, 1994. An application for SAW status does not constitute an application for class membership in any of the legalization class-action lawsuits, as required under section 1104(b) of the LIFE Act. Furthermore, the LIFE Act contains no provision allowing for the reopening or reconsideration of a timely filed and previously denied application for temporary resident status as a special agricultural worker under section 210 of the INA.

The applicant does not even assert, much less submit any supporting documentation, that he filed a written claim for class membership in any of the three legalization lawsuits, *CSS*, *LULAC*, or *Zambrano*. Nor are there any records within CIS which demonstrate that the applicant applied for class membership.

Based on the evidence of record, therefore, it is concluded that the applicant is ineligible for permanent resident status under section 1104 of the LIFE Act.

ORDER: The appeal is dismissed. This decision constitutes a final notice of ineligibility.