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SUMMARY OF 4/18/2017
EXECUTIVE ORDER

On April 18, 2017, President Trump signed a new Executive Order titled "*Buy American, Hire American.*" The Order directs the Department of Labor (DOL), the Department of Justice (DOJ), the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), and the Department of State (DOS) to review all visa programs, and after review, propose new rules and issue new guidance "to protect the interests of United States workers in the administration of our immigration system."

The President's Order also addresses the H-1B visa directly and calls for review of the process to "help ensure that H-1B visas are awarded to the most-skilled or highest-paid petition beneficiaries."

However, the order has NO immediate impact on H-1Bs or other work visas; it is simply calling for the review of current legislation and possible proposals on how to reform the system. In any case, changes to the current system would require legislative action and notice and comment rulemaking, which takes time and would not happen overnight.

Measures to fight fraud in the work visa programs could be implemented more quickly than new rules and regulations, but the programs have always had rules against fraud and allowed for anti-fraud investigations.

The information above is a summary only and is not intended to provide legal advice to any individual seeking admission to the United States.