

The Twentieth Knesset

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P/20/4479

Bill for the Entry into Israel Law (Amendment – Revocation of Visa and Permanent Residence Permits of Terrorists and their Families) – 2017 [5777]

Amendment of Article 11 1. In Article 11 (a) of the Entry into Israel Law of 1952¹ [5712], the following should be stipulated after clause (2):

“(3) cancel the visa or permanent residence permit of any person who participated in terrorist activities against the State of Israel and its citizens or was a member in a terrorist organization as defined in Article 2 (a) the Counter-Terrorism Law of 2016² [5776] (hereby referred to as the “Counter-Terrorism Law”), along with that person’s family members, provided that this person’s visa or permanent residence permit is not revoked before giving him/her and his/her family members the chance to plead and state their claims before the Minister. In this article,

“Participation in a terrorist activity” includes participating, helping, supporting or financing any activity which contributes directly or indirectly in implementing terrorist acts based on nationalistic grounds or any act which jeopardizes the security of the State of Israel and the life of its residents; including any act which is considered an offense according to Chapter 3 of the Counter-Terrorism Law;

“Relative” means any of the following: [the offender’s] spouse, parents or children (minors).

¹ Statutes Book of the [Hebrew] year 5712 [extends from 1 October 1951 until 19 September 1952], Page 146.

² Statutes Book of the [Hebrew] year 5776 [extends from 14 September 2015 until 2 October 2016], Page. 898.

Unofficial Translation

Explanations

There are quite a few cases in which Israeli citizens – including East Jerusalem residents – were involved in terrorist attacks and activities against the citizens and residents of Israel. In many cases, these terrorists carried blue identity cards which enable them to reside and move freely all over the country.

This bill was designed to give the Minister of Interior the authority to cancel the Israeli visa and permanent residence permits of terrorists and their family members. This was necessary from the security point of view in order to limit their stay and restrict their movement inside of Israel; and also in order to prevent them from committing or assisting in committing any terrorist activities against the State of Israel and its citizens.

Nevertheless, before taking any measures for revoking their permanent residence permits, the Minister of the Interior will enable the holder of the permit and his/her relatives to plead and state their claims in order to prove that they were not directly or indirectly involved in any crime so as to prevent the revocation of their permits. The revocation of one's permit will also lead to the cancellation of their legal rights stated in the National Insurance Law (Consolidated version), 1995 [5755], such as the dependents pension and burial fees, because there is no logic behind providing any state support to them and their relatives.

At this point, the Entry into Israel Law of 1952 [5712] does not properly tackle the absurd consequences of these incidents. As a result of this shortcoming, we have witnessed cases in which a terrorist who is caught perpetrating an attack or attempting to do so still enjoys (along with his family) all the social and other benefits which they receive because they are Israeli citizens. The proposed amendment was designed to impose a good punishment against those who object to the existence of the state and do not waste any effort in harming the Israeli state and its citizens.

Highly similar bills have been presented to the table of the 17th Knesset by Knesset member Yuli-Yoel Edelstein (P/17/3635); Knesset member Nissan Slomiansky (P/17/3589); Knesset member Yohanan Plesner (P/17/3610); Knesset member Avraham Michaeli (P/17/3948); Knesset member Yoel Hasson and a group of Knesset members (P/17/3613); Knesset member Sofa Landver and a group of Knesset members (P/17/4021). Also, a similar bill was submitted to the table of the 18th Knesset by Knesset member Sofa Landver and a group of Knesset members (P/18/66); and also by Knesset member Avraham Michaeli and a group of Knesset members (P/18/301); as well as the table of the 19th Knesset by Knesset members Avraham Michaeli and Ya'akov Margi (P/19/1932).

Submitted to the Knesset Chairman and deputies and presented to the Knesset table on the date of 24.7.2017 [1 Av 5777].