

**Congress of the United States**  
Washington, DC 20510

August 06, 2025

The Honorable Marco Rubio  
Secretary of State  
U.S. Department of State  
2201 C Street NW  
Washington, D.C. 20520

Dear Secretary Rubio:

I write to express my deep concern with the Visa Bond Pilot Program and request that the State Department not proceed with its implementation as the program will exclude many potential visa applicants, harming the U.S. tourism economy – which is already struggling as a result of President Trump’s chaotic trade policies - and the local jobs it supports.

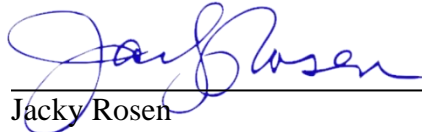
On Tuesday, August 5, 2025, the State Department published a temporary final rule (TFR) in the Federal Register announcing the 12-month long Visa Bond Pilot Program, authorized under the Immigration and Nationality Act. Effective August 20, 2025, the pilot program will impose a discretionary bond requirement ranging from \$5,000 to \$15,000 on certain nationals applying for nonimmigrant, business visitor/tourist (B-1/B-2) visas. This bond requirement creates a significant financial barrier for otherwise eligible travelers, many of whom lack the economic means to secure a high-value bond upfront despite their full intent to comply with all applicable visa terms.

As such, the Visa Bond Pilot Program poses a significant threat to states whose economies heavily depend on tourism, like my own. For instance, Las Vegas has already experienced more than a seven percent decrease in tourism through June of 2025 compared to the first six months of the previous year, and the Visa Bond Pilot Program will only further deter visitors. By imposing a high upfront financial bond on certain visa applicants, the program will effectively restrict access for a broad segment of international travelers – many of whom may be middle-class tourists or business visitors who contribute substantially to state economies when they visit but lack the liquidity to post such bonds. This restriction will not only reduce the volume of inbound visitors, but will also disrupt the steady flow of tourism-related revenue that supports countless American-owned small businesses, hotels, restaurants, and attractions.

With major global events on the horizon, such as the 2026 FIFA World Cup and the 2028 Summer Olympics, states need to maximize tourism opportunities, not restrict them. The Visa Bond Pilot Program’s financial barriers will deter large numbers of visitors and weaken the economic boost these events could provide to local communities nationwide.

In light of these concerns, I request that the Department of State suspend implementation of the Visa Bond Pilot Program. Thank you for your immediate attention to this urgent matter, and I welcome the opportunity to further engage on this issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jacky Rosen", is positioned above a horizontal line.

Jacky Rosen  
United States Senator