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# 'Startup visa' rule may be postponed, amended or withdrawn

Via SFGATE:

A rule that would allow some startup founders to stay in the U.S. and build their companies has been sent to the Office of Management and Budget for further review — a move that suggests the rule may be postponed, withdrawn or amended before it goes into effect in July.

The International Entrepreneur Rule, the closest Silicon Valley has come to a “startup visa,” was approved by the Department of Homeland Security during President Barack Obama’s last few hours in office. The point of the rule was to give entrepreneurs who do not qualify for existing visa programs a chance to stay in the United States to grow their businesses.

A leaked draft of an executive order in January suggested President Trump planned to do away with the rule. While leaked orders have often not translated into policy, the extra review has some experts skeptical if the rule will see the light of day.

“The fact that it got pulled back seems to indicate that people within the administration are interested in taking a second look at the rule,” said William Stock, president of the American Immigration Lawyers Association.

To qualify for this rule, entrepreneurs would have to meet high standards. A foreigner must demonstrate that he or she will contribute to economic growth or job creation and show that a reputable investor has put at least \$250,000 into the company. Foreigners under this rule can also only stay in the U.S. for 30 months (with the possibility of a 30-month extension), and cannot apply for a green card during this period.

Stock said it is “extraordinarily common” for a new administration to review rules that have not gone into effect, and determine if they align with the president’s priorities.

Read the full article at: [www.sfgate.com](http://www.sfgate.com)