REDUCTION OF VISA FEES FOR NONIMMIGRANTS

*Exchange of notes at Santiago July 8 and August 10 and 12, 1926*
*Entered into force August 10, 1926*
*Amended by agreement of August 8 and November 15, 1938*¹
*Superseded by agreement of August 29, 1950*²

Department of State files

*The American Chargé d’Affaires to the Minister of Foreign Affairs*

*SANTIAGO, CHILE*
*July 8, 1926*

**EXCELLENCY:**

I have the honor to refer to Your Excellency’s esteemed Note, No. 2850 of April 26, 1926, in which you were good enough to advise this Embassy that Your Excellency’s Government would be disposed to enter into an agreement with the Government of the United States regarding a reciprocal reduction of the visa fees at present in force in our respective countries.

I now take great pleasure in informing Your Excellency that I have been authorized by my Government to effect such an agreement by an Exchange of Notes. The Government of the United States is therefore prepared, from the date I receive Your Excellency’s confirmation of the understanding, to reduce to $4.00 U.S. gold, the fee collected for vising passports of citizens of Chile desiring to visit the United States (including insular possessions) who are not “immigrants” as defined in the Immigration Act of the United States of 1924; namely

“...a government official, his family, attendants, servants, and employees, (2) an alien visiting the United States temporarily as a tourist or temporarily for business or pleasure, (3) an alien in continuous transit through the United States, (4) an alien lawfully admitted to the United States who later goes in transit from one part of the United States to another through foreign contiguous territory, (5) a bona fide alien seaman serving as such on a vessel arriving at a port of the United States and seeking to enter temporarily the United States...”

¹ Post, p. 588.
² 1 UST 719; TIAS 2137.
States solely in the pursuit of his calling as a seaman, and (6) an alien entitled to enter the United States solely to carry on trade under and in pursuance of the provisions of a present existing treaty of commerce and navigation."

Reciprocally and from the same date the Government of Chile will not charge more than the equivalent of $4.00 U.S. gold, for the visasing of passports of nonimmigrant citizens of the United States of like classes desiring to visit Chile or its possessions.

It is understood that all applications for visas shall be gratis.

I should be happy to receive from Your Excellency a confirmation of the understanding as set forth above in order that the proposed arrangement may become effective at an early date.

I avail myself, etc.

C. Van H. Engert

Chargé d’Affaires a. i.

His Excellency

Señor Don Beltrán Mathieu,

Minister for Foreign Affairs,

Santiago.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs to the American Chargé d’Affaires

[TRANSLATION]

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN RELATIONS

SANTIAGO, CHILE

August 10, 1926

No. 3753

Mr. Chargé d’Affaires:

By your Note No. 616 of July 8th you were good enough to inform me that, having been duly authorised by your Government, you desired to effect by an exchange of notes a reciprocal reduction of the consular fees for the visasing of passports.

In reply I have pleasure in stating to you that as soon as I have received your confirmation, instructions will be issued to the Consuls of the Republic that, by way of reciprocity, they should collect only Four Dollars ($4.00 U.S. cy.) for the visasing of the passports of nonimmigrant American citizens.

This instruction will be issued by telegraph to the Consuls in the United States in order that the arrangement may enter into force immediately; it will be sent by mail to the Consuls stationed in all other countries.

It is understood that the applications for passports will not require the payment of any fees.

I avail myself, etc.

Antonio Huneeus

C. Van H. Engert, Esquire,

Chargé d’Affaires of the United States.
The American Chargé d’Affaires to the Minister of Foreign Affairs

SANTIAGO, CHILE

August 12, 1926

No. 633

Excellency:

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of Your Excellency’s Note No. 3753 of August 10, and am much gratified to learn that the Chilean Government agrees to a reciprocal reduction of [to] $4.00 gold, of the fee to be charged for nonimmigrant visas, as set forth in the Embassy’s Note No. 616 of July 8, 1926.

I am today cabling my Government to this effect and shall advise the American Consulates in Chile by telegraph thereof. All diplomatic missions of the United States in Latin America will be informed by mail.

I avail myself of this opportunity to reiterate to Your Excellency the assurances of my highest consideration.

C. VAN H. ENGERT
Chargé d’Affaires a. i.

His Excellency
Señor don ANTONIO HUNEEUS,
Minister for Foreign Affairs,
Santiago.