

Alien Registration Act will be abolished, and Immigration Control Act and Basic Resident Registration Act will be amended as of July 2012!

《Key Changes》

Alien registration system will be abolished and aliens will be subject to Basic Resident Registration Act.

- ◎ For a household consisting of Japanese nationals and foreign nationals, the conventional system under which the family members can identify themselves by certified copy of the residence record for Japanese nationals (Jumin-hyo) or by certified copy of alien register for foreign nationals (Gaikokujin tourokugensho), will be abolished and they will be able to uniformly identify themselves by a single residence record (Jumin-hyo).
- ◎ Like a Japanese national does, a foreign national who moves from one city to another will need to **report to the city** he/she used to live **of the removal** and obtain “*Certificate of Removal (Tenshutsu shomeisho)*” which then needs to be submitted to the city which he/she moves in.

Changes to Immigration Control Act will benefit foreign nationals living in Japan.

- ◎ A foreign national will be released from some burdens.
 - After the changes, a foreign national who has registered with the Immigration Bureau any change to his/her status of residence, an extension of period of stay, etc. **will not need to report as such to the city** where he/she lives.
- ◎ The Alien Registration Card (Gaikokujin torokusho) will be replaced by “**Residence Card (Zairyu card)**” containing less information.
 - For permanent residents ...

A Residence Card (Zairyu card) will be issued by taking procedures at Immigration Bureau within three years after the law amendment.
 - For others ...

A Residence Card (Zairyu card) will be issued at the first extension of period of stay after law amendment or when any change to the status of residence is made at the Immigration Bureau.

《Foreign nationals entitled to registration to Residence Record (Jumin-hyo)》

Excluding the persons staying in Japan for short periods of time, foreign nationals residing legally in Japan for more than three months with a status of residence.

- (1) Medium to long term resident
- (2) Special permanent resident
- (3) Person granted landing permission for temporary refuge or person granted permission for provisional stay
- (4) Person who is to stay in Japan through birth or who has renounced Japanese nationality

⇒ Persons who do not fall within any of the aforementioned categories or who **do not qualify for the status of residence** as of the law amendment (including those who have not reported to the city under Alien Registration Act any change to the duration of stay) will not be registered to Residence Record (Jumin-hyo) and thus certified copies of the residence record may not be issued. If you will need a certified copy of Residence Record (Jumin-hyo), take necessary procedures as soon as possible.

※ For those subject to the new system, a Provisional Resident Record (Kari jumin-hyo) will be sent to you from April 2012 for you to check information contained in the record.

Neither reference date for making Provisional Resident Record (Kari jumin-hyo) nor effective date of the law amendment has yet been decided. Once decided, it will be announced on the City website and other notices.

See the following websites for further details:

“[Changes to Immigration Control Act!](#)” (Ministry of Justice)

“[Changes to the Basic Resident Registration Law - Foreign residents will be subject to the Basic Resident Registration Law -](#)” (Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications)