

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 4578

To expand the H-2B visa program, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 20, 2021

Mr. RICE of South Carolina introduced the following bill; which was referred
to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To expand the H-2B visa program, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Relief for Seasonal
5 Businesses Act of 2021”.

6 **SEC. 2. EXPANSION OF H-2B PROGRAM.**

7 Section 214(g) of the Immigration and Nationality
8 Act (8 U.S.C. (g)) is amended—

9 (1) in paragraph (1)(B) by striking “66,000”
10 and inserting “350,000”;

11 (2) in paragraph (9), to read as follows:

12 “(9) RETURNING WORKERS.—

1 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subpara-
2 graphs (B) and (C), an alien shall not again be
3 counted toward such limitation during fiscal
4 year if that alien had already been counted to-
5 ward the numerical limitation of paragraph
6 (1)(B) during any of the 3 fiscal years imme-
7 diately preceding that fiscal year. Such an alien
8 shall be considered a returning worker.

9 “(B) PETITIONS.—A petition to admit or
10 otherwise provide status under section
11 101(a)(15)(H)(ii)(b) shall include, with respect
12 to a returning worker—

13 “(i) all information and evidence that
14 the Secretary of Homeland Security deter-
15 mines is required to support a petition for
16 status under section 101(a)(15)(H)(ii)(b);

17 “(ii) the full name of the alien; and

18 “(iii) a certification to the Depart-
19 ment of Homeland Security that the alien
20 is a returning worker.

21 “(C) APPROVAL.—An H-2B visa or grant
22 of nonimmigrant status for a returning worker
23 shall be approved only if the alien is confirmed
24 to be a returning worker by—

25 “(i) the Department of State; or

1 “(ii) if the alien is visa exempt or
2 seeking to change to status under section
3 101 (a)(15)(H)(ii)(b), the Department of
4 Homeland Security.”; and
5 (3) in paragraph (10), by striking “33,000”
6 and inserting “175,000”.

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