

117TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 6693

To permit aliens seeking asylum to be eligible for employment in the United States, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 9, 2022

Ms. PINGREE (for herself, Mr. MCGOVERN, and Ms. OMAR) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To permit aliens seeking asylum to be eligible for employment in the United States, 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 “Asylum Seeker Work
5 Authorization Act of 2022”.

6 **SEC. 2. EMPLOYMENT AUTHORIZATION FOR ALIENS SEEK-**
7 **ING ASYLUM.**

8 Paragraph (2) of section 208(d) of the Immigration
9 and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1158(d)) is amended to
10 read as follows:

1 “(2) EMPLOYMENT AUTHORIZATION.—

2 “(A) ELIGIBILITY.—The Secretary of
3 Homeland Security shall authorize employment
4 for an applicant for asylum who is not in deten-
5 tion and whose application for asylum has not
6 been determined frivolous.

7 “(B) APPLICATION.—An applicant for asy-
8 lum who is not otherwise eligible for employ-
9 ment authorization shall not be granted such
10 authorization prior to 30 days after the date of
11 filing of the application for asylum.

12 “(C) TERM.—Employment authorization
13 for an applicant for asylum—

14 “(i) shall be for a period of 2 years or
15 more; and

16 “(ii) shall be renewable for additional
17 2-year periods for the entire continuous pe-
18 riod necessary to adjudicate the applicant’s
19 asylum claim, including administrative or
20 judicial review.”.

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