

## Title: Recent Developments and Research Findings on H1-B Visa Policies

### Introduction:

The H1-B visa is a non-immigrant visa that allows businesses in the United States to employ foreign workers in specialty occupations. Recent years have seen various policy changes and debates surrounding this visa category. Here's a summary of the latest research findings on the topic.

### Key Takeaways:

#### 1. H1-B Visa Demand:

- According to the US Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS), there were approximately 315,000 H1-B petitions approved and denied in FY 2020 (Source: USCIS).
- A study by the National Foundation for American Policy found that 71 Fortune 500 companies added more than 45,000 H1-B visa workers during the last decade (Source: National Foundation for American Policy).

#### 2. H1-B Visa Reforms and Policy Changes:

- The Trump administration introduced several policy changes aiming at reducing H1-B visa abuse and increasing wages for foreign workers, including the H-1B Visa Electronic Registration System (PERM) and the H-1B visa wage level requirements.
- The Biden administration has expressed intention to review H1-B visa policies and potentially ease restrictions put in place by the previous administration.

#### 3. Impacts of H1-B Visa Policies:

- A study by the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that foreign students and workers in STEM fields contribute significantly to the US economy and innovation, and help fill the talent gap in the US technology sector.
- A report by the Brookings Institution suggested that H1-B visa workers have higher earnings potential than many Americans lacking a college degree, but also face challenges related to job mobility and working conditions (Source: Brookings Institution).

#### 4. Public Opinion and the H1-B Visa:

- A survey by Pew Research Center found that 51% of respondents believe that the US should prioritize the employment of US workers over foreign workers, while 48% disagreed (Source: Pew Research Center).
- A recent study by the National Foundation for American Policy found that 76% of US adults support allowing foreign students who earn a US bachelor's or master's degree in a STEM field to work in the US for at least 2 years after graduation (Source: National Foundation for American Policy).

### Conclusion:

The H1-B visa remains a contentious issue in the US, with ongoing debates about its impact on the US labor market, innovation, and foreign workers. Recent research emphasizes the importance of a well-designed H1-B visa program for addressing talent gaps, driving innovation, and contributing to the US economy. Political developments, particularly under the Biden administration, are closely monitored for potential policy shifts that may impact H1-B visa rules and demand.