

HR 1272

Doctors Helping Heroes Act of 2015

Congress: 114 (2015–2017, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Immigration

Introduced: Mar 4, 2015

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Immigration and Border Security.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Immigration and Border Security. (Mar 31, 2015)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/house-bill/1272>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Bera, Ami [D-CA-7]

Party: Democratic • State: CA • Chamber: House

Cosponsors (3 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Meadows, Mark [R-NC-11]	R · NC		Mar 4, 2015
Rep. Ruiz, Raul [D-CA-36]	D · CA		Apr 29, 2015
Rep. O'Rourke, Beto [D-TX-16]	D · TX		Sep 30, 2015

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Judiciary Committee	House	Referred to	Mar 31, 2015

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Immigration

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
114 S 1189	Related bill	May 5, 2015: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Doctors Helping Heroes Act of 2015

Amends the Immigration and Nationality Technical Corrections Act of 1994 to make permanent the J-1 visa waiver program (Conrad state 30/medical services in underserved areas).

Excludes from numerical immigration limitations alien physicians who have completed national interest waiver requirements by working in a health care shortage area (including alien physicians who completed such service before enactment of this Act and any of their spouses or children).

Sets forth specified employment protections and contract requirements for alien physicians working in underserved areas.

Increases the number of alien physicians that a state may be allocated from 30 to 35 per fiscal year in specified circumstances. Provides for additional increases or decreases based upon demand.

Provides up to three visa waivers per fiscal year per state for physicians in academic medical centers.

Permits dual intent for an alien coming to the United States to receive graduate medical education or training, or to take examinations required for graduate medical education or training.

Exempts from specified entry limitations H-1B nonimmigrant aliens seeking to enter the United States to pursue graduate medical education or training.

Amends the Immigration and Nationality Act to authorize waiver of the two-year foreign residency requirement for an alien who has received graduate medical education or training in the United States and seeks to apply for an immigrant visa or permanent resident status if:

- the Secretary of Veterans Affairs (VA) determines that VA facilities are not capable of furnishing covered health services to eligible veterans because they lack the required personnel or cannot provide timely and reasonable access; and
- the head of the appropriate state agency determines that the alien will practice medicine in a Veterans Health Administration facility, the alien physician's work is in the public interest, and such waiver would not cause the number of waivers allotted for that state for that fiscal year to exceed five.

Actions Timeline

- **Mar 31, 2015:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Immigration and Border Security.
- **Mar 4, 2015:** Introduced in House
- **Mar 4, 2015:** Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary.