

HR 5956

Northern Mariana Islands U.S. Workforce Act of 2018

Congress: 115 (2017–2019, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Government Operations and Politics

Introduced: May 24, 2018

Current Status: Became Public Law No: 115-218.

Latest Action: Became Public Law No: 115-218. (Jul 24, 2018)

Law: 115-218 (Enacted Jul 24, 2018)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/5956>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Bishop, Rob [R-UT-1]

Party: Republican • **State:** UT • **Chamber:** House

Cosponsors (1 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Del. Sablan, Gregorio Kilili Camacho [D-MP-At Large]	D · MP		May 24, 2018

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Natural Resources Committee	House	Referred To	May 24, 2018

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Government Operations and Politics

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
115 S 2325	Related bill	Apr 24, 2018: Held at the desk.
115 HR 4869	Related bill	Jan 23, 2018: Referred to the Subcommittee on Indian, Insular and Alaska Native Affairs.

Northern Mariana Islands U.S. Workforce Act of 2018

(Sec. 3) This bill extends by 10 years, through 2029, and revises the immigration transition program for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

The Governor of the CNMI must submit to the Department of Labor, and Labor must approve, a plan for using fees collected for vocational education.

Labor must report on the number of asylum seekers it anticipates at the end of the transition program and its efforts to prepare for the asylum seekers.

The bill revises the Commonwealth Only Transitional Worker permit system, including to limit the validity of a permit to a one-year period, at most.

Employers petitioning for one or more such permits must pay a specified fraud prevention and detection fee.

Before an employer's petition for a permit may be approved by Labor, the employer must apply to Labor for a temporary labor certification that confirms (1) there are not sufficient U.S. workers in the CNMI who are able, willing, qualified, and available to perform the work involved in the petition; and (2) employment of the nonimmigrant worker will not adversely affect the wages and working conditions of similarly employed U.S. workers. Workers under permits must be paid the highest of CNMI minimum wage, federal minimum wage, or the prevailing wage for the occupation. The bill provides for renewal of permits and three-year permits for workers permitted since FY2015.

The bill caps the number of permits that may be issued each fiscal year. The cap is lowered each year.

Actions Timeline

- **Jul 24, 2018:** Signed by President.
- **Jul 24, 2018:** Became Public Law No: 115-218.
- **Jul 12, 2018:** Presented to President.
- **Jun 29, 2018:** Message on Senate action sent to the House.
- **Jun 28, 2018:** Passed/agreed to in Senate: Passed Senate without amendment by Voice Vote.(consideration: CR S4810; text: CR S4810-4811)
- **Jun 28, 2018:** Passed Senate without amendment by Voice Vote. (consideration: CR S4810; text: CR S4810-4811)
- **Jun 6, 2018:** Received in the Senate, read twice.
- **Jun 5, 2018:** Mr. Bishop (UT) moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill.
- **Jun 5, 2018:** Considered under suspension of the rules. (consideration: CR H4745-4748)
- **Jun 5, 2018:** DEBATE - The House proceeded with forty minutes of debate on H.R. 5956.
- **Jun 5, 2018:** Passed/agreed to in House: On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill Agreed to by voice vote.(text: CR H4745-4747)
- **Jun 5, 2018:** On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill Agreed to by voice vote. (text: CR H4745-4747)
- **Jun 5, 2018:** Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
- **May 24, 2018:** Introduced in House
- **May 24, 2018:** Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.