

S 1887

Paperwork Reduction for Farmers and H–2A Modernization Act

Congress: 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Immigration

Introduced: Jun 18, 2019

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. (Jun 18, 2019)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/senate-bill/1887>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Paul, Rand [R-KY]

Party: Republican • **State:** KY • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors

No cosponsors are listed for this bill.

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Judiciary Committee	Senate	Referred To	Jun 18, 2019

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Immigration

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
116 HR 3319	Identical bill	Jul 30, 2019: Referred to the Subcommittee on Immigration and Citizenship.

Paperwork Reduction for Farmers and H-2A Modernization Act

This bill expands the H-2A (temporary agricultural worker) visa program to cover additional types of labor, makes various changes to the program, and provides a safe harbor for errors in nonimmigrant worker visa applications in certain instances.

The bill makes H-2A visas available to an alien providing temporary labor that falls within the federal government classification categories for (1) grounds maintenance workers; (2) farming, fishing, and forestry occupations; or (3) forest, conservation, and logging workers.

The bill authorizes joint employers to file a joint petition for an H-2A alien.

The bill allows (1) employers seeking to rehire an H-2A worker to submit a simplified petition, and (2) employers seeking to hire H-2A workers for different time periods during a fiscal year to submit a single petition for such workers.

The Department of Labor shall establish an electronic filing and appeals system for H-2A petitions. U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) shall communicate electronically with an H-2A employer when USCIS requests evidence from the employer, if the employer asks to do so.

An employer who uses a third-party service to apply for a nonimmigrant worker visa shall not be civilly or criminally liable for errors in the application if the employer reasonably believed that the application was accurate and complied with statutory requirements.

Actions Timeline

- **Jun 18, 2019:** Introduced in Senate
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