

HR 3319

Paperwork Reduction for Farmers and H–2A Modernization Act

Congress: 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Immigration

Introduced: Jun 18, 2019

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Immigration and Citizenship.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Immigration and Citizenship. (Jul 30, 2019)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/3319>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Kelly, Trent [R-MS-1]

Party: Republican • State: MS • Chamber: House

Cosponsors (7 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Barr, Andy [R-KY-6]	R · KY		Jun 25, 2019
Rep. Guest, Michael [R-MS-3]	R · MS		Jun 25, 2019
Rep. Abraham, Ralph Lee [R-LA-5]	R · LA		Jun 28, 2019
Rep. Steube, W. Gregory [R-FL-17]	R · FL		Jun 28, 2019
Rep. Carter, Earl L. "Buddy" [R-GA-1]	R · GA		Jul 15, 2019
Rep. Baird, James R. [R-IN-4]	R · IN		Jul 18, 2019
Rep. Wagner, Ann [R-MO-2]	R · MO		Jul 23, 2019

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Judiciary Committee	House	Referred to	Jul 30, 2019

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Immigration

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
116 S 1887	Identical bill	Jun 18, 2019: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

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

- **Jul 30, 2019:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Immigration and Citizenship.
- **Jun 18, 2019:** Introduced in House
- **Jun 18, 2019:** Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary.