

HR 6993

H-1B and L-1 Visa Reform Act of 2020

Congress: 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Immigration

Introduced: May 22, 2020

Current Status: Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Education and Labor,

Latest Action: Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Education and Labor, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned. (May 22, 2020)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/6993>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Pascrell, Bill, Jr. [D-NJ-9]

Party: Democratic • **State:** NJ • **Chamber:** House

Cosponsors (4 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Gooden, Lance [R-TX-5]	R · TX		May 28, 2020
Rep. Gosar, Paul A. [R-AZ-4]	R · AZ		May 28, 2020
Rep. Khanna, Ro [D-CA-17]	D · CA		May 28, 2020
Rep. Pallone, Frank, Jr. [D-NJ-6]	D · NJ		May 28, 2020

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Education and Workforce Committee	House	Referred To	May 22, 2020
Judiciary Committee	House	Referred To	May 22, 2020

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Immigration

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
116 S 3770	Identical bill	May 19, 2020: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

H-1B and L-1 Visa Reform Act of 2020

This bill modifies requirements related to H-1B (specialty occupation) and L-1 (intracompany transfers) nonimmigrant visas and contains related provisions.

Provisions relating to H-1B visas include

- requiring the Department of Labor to review petitions for indicators of fraud or misrepresentation of material fact;
- requiring the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to prioritize certain petitions, with top priority for workers with advanced degrees in science, technology, or engineering;
- requiring an H-1B worker to possess at minimum a bachelor's degree to meet specialty occupation requirements (currently, relevant experience may be used instead); and
- prohibiting an alien classifiable in certain H-1B categories from obtaining a B-1 (temporary business visitor) visa.

Provisions relating to L-1 visas include

- requiring a waiver from Labor for an L-1 worker to be primarily stationed with an employer other than the petitioning employer;
- prohibiting an alien from receiving an L-1 visa to open or be employed in a new office if the alien has received two or more such visas in the last two years; and
- increasing the L-1 worker minimum wage to the highest of certain amounts, such as the median wage for the worker's occupational classification in the area of employment (currently, an L-1 worker must be paid at least the higher of the federal or state minimum wage).

In regards to both visas, the bill (1) expands the authority of DHS and Labor to take various enforcement actions, and (2) directs DHS to conduct annual audits of a certain percentage of employers.

Actions Timeline

- **May 22, 2020:** Introduced in House
- **May 22, 2020:** Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Education and Labor, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.