

S 2384

Keep STEM Talent Act of 2023

Congress: 118 (2023–2025, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Immigration

Introduced: Jul 19, 2023

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. (text: CR S3152)

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. (text: CR S3152) (Jul 19, 2023)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/senate-bill/2384>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Durbin, Richard J. [D-IL]

Party: Democratic • State: IL • Chamber: Senate

Cosponsors (2 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Rounds, Mike [R-SD]	R · SD		Jul 19, 2023
Sen. King, Angus S., Jr. [I-ME]	I · ME		Jan 16, 2024

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Judiciary Committee	Senate	Referred To	Jul 19, 2023

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Immigration

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
118 HR 5477	Related bill	Sep 14, 2023: Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary.

Keep STEM Talent Act of 2023

This bill addresses issues relating to non-U. S. nationals (*aliens* under federal law) with advanced degrees in a science, technology, engineering, or mathematics (STEM) field, including exempting certain such individuals from direct limitations on the number of immigrant visas granted per year.

To be exempt from the annual numerical limitations on immigrant visas, the individual must (1) have earned a master's level or higher degree in certain STEM fields while in the United States attending an accredited higher education institution, (2) be employed (or have an offer) to perform work directly related to the degree and earn higher than the median wage for that occupation, and (3) meet certain labor certification requirements.

The bill also allows an individual seeking a nonimmigrant F-1 (student) visa for an advanced STEM degree to obtain the nonimmigrant visa even if the individual seeks lawful permanent resident status. (Generally, an individual may be denied a nonimmigrant visa if the individual actually intends to seek immigrant status, unless dual intent is allowed for that visa.)

Under this bill, to be approved for an F-1 visa for an advanced STEM degree, the applicant must apply for the visa before beginning the advanced degree program.

The bill also requires an individual who is inside the United States and applying for an F-1 visa for an advanced STEM degree to undergo the same vetting (e.g., verifying academic credentials and undergoing background checks) as an individual applying from outside the United States.

Actions Timeline

- **Jul 19, 2023:** Introduced in Senate
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