

HR 5477

Keep STEM Talent Act of 2023

Congress: 118 (2023–2025, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Immigration

Introduced: Sep 14, 2023

Current Status: Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary.

Latest Action: Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary. (Sep 14, 2023)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-bill/5477>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Foster, Bill [D-IL-11]

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

Cosponsors (12 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Garcia, Sylvia R. [D-TX-29]	D · TX		Sep 14, 2023
Rep. Lawler, Michael [R-NY-17]	R · NY		Sep 14, 2023
Rep. Nickel, Wiley [D-NC-13]	D · NC		Sep 14, 2023
Rep. Houlahan, Chrissy [D-PA-6]	D · PA		Sep 27, 2023
Rep. Ramirez, Delia C. [D-IL-3]	D · IL		Nov 6, 2023
Rep. Trone, David J. [D-MD-6]	D · MD		Nov 6, 2023
Rep. Thanedar, Shri [D-MI-13]	D · MI		Feb 1, 2024
Rep. Williams, Nikema [D-GA-5]	D · GA		Apr 10, 2024
Del. Norton, Eleanor Holmes [D-DC-At Large]	D · DC		Apr 11, 2024
Rep. Beyer, Donald S. [D-VA-8]	D · VA		Apr 30, 2024
Rep. Connolly, Gerald E. [D-VA-11]	D · VA		Apr 30, 2024
Rep. Deluzio, Christopher R. [D-PA-17]	D · PA		Jul 11, 2024

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Judiciary Committee	House	Referred To	Sep 14, 2023

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Immigration

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
118 S 2384	Related bill	Jul 19, 2023: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. (text: CR S3152)

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

- **Sep 14, 2023:** Introduced in House
- **Sep 14, 2023:** Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary.

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