Texas A&M University
Graduate and Professional Student Council
General Assembly
2017-2018 Session

A Resolution in Favor of Reforming the Temporary Employment
(H-1B) Visa Program

Presented by Fernando Lavalle and Brenna Lin on March 6, 2018

Whereas: The Graduate and Professional Student Council exists to govern and to serve
as the voice of all graduate and professional students at Texas A&M
University.

Whereas: The H-1B program allows companies in the U.S. to temporarily employ
foreign workers in occupations that require highly specialized knowledge. [1]

Whereas: The H-1B visa has an annual numerical limit of 65,000 visas each fiscal year.
The first 20,000 petitions filed on behalf of beneficiaries with a U.S. master’s
degree or higher are exempt from the cap. [2]

Whereas: United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) uses a
computer-generated process, also known as the lottery, to randomly select the
petitions needed to meet the caps of 65,000 visas for the general category and
20,000 for the advanced degree exemption. [3]

Whereas: More than 350,000 [4] student visas were issued for 2017, which means more
than 80% of international students that obtain higher degrees from U.S.
universities will not be able to stay in the U.S. and work after graduation.

And Whereas: The U.S. invests resources and money towards educating international
students and their advanced degrees. A lottery system for H1-B visas puts
those graduates seeking temporary employment at a disadvantage against
international applicants with no U.S. education.
Let it be
Resolved: The Graduate and Professional Student Council at Texas A&M University is in favor of giving preference to foreign individuals with U.S. degrees instead of the current lottery system for general category H-1B.

Let it be
Further Resolved: A copy of this resolution shall be posted and delivered to:

Sen. John Cornyn
U.S. Senate
Sen. Ted Cruz
U.S. Senate
Rep. Jodey Arrington
U.S. Representative
Rep. Brian Babin
U.S. Representative
Rep. Joe Barton
U.S. Representative
Rep. Kevin Brady
U.S. Representative
Rep. Michael C. Burgess
U.S. Representative
Rep. John Carter
U.S. Representative
Rep. Joaquin Castro
U.S. Representative
Rep. Mike Conaway
U.S. Representative
Rep. Henry Cuellar
U.S. Representative
Rep. John Culberson
U.S. Representative
Rep. Lloyd Doggett
U.S. Representative
Rep. Blake Farenthold
U.S. Representative
Rep. Bill Flores
U.S. Representative
Rep. Louie Gohmert
U.S. Representative
Rep. Vicente Gonzalez
U.S. Representative
Rep. Kay Granger
U.S. Representative
Rep. Al Green

U.S. Representative
Rep. Gene Green
U.S. Representative
Rep. Jeb Hensarling
U.S. Representative
Rep. Will Hurd
U.S. Representative
Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee
U.S. Representative
Rep. Eddie Bernice Johnson
U.S. Representative
Rep. Sam Johnson
U.S. Representative
Rep. Kenny Marchant
U.S. Representative
Rep. Michael McCaul
U.S. Representative
Rep. Beto O'Rourke
U.S. Representative
Rep. Pete Olson
U.S. Representative
Rep. Ted Poe
U.S. Representative
Rep. John Ratcliffe
U.S. Representative
Rep. Pete Sessions
U.S. Representative
Rep. Lamar S. Smith
U.S. Representative
Rep. Mac Thornberry
U.S. Representative
Rep. Marc Veasey
U.S. Representative
U.S. Representative
Rep. Randy Weber
U.S. Representative
Rep. Roger Williams
U.S. Representative
Scott Sudduth
Assistant Vice Chancellor
Dr. Diane Hurtado
Associate Vice President for Federal Relations

[1] H-1B Fiscal Year (FY) 2018 Cap Season, USCIS (Available Online)


https://travel.state.gov/content/dam/visas/Statistics/AnnualReports/FY2017AnnualReport/FY17AnnualReport-TableXVIIB.pdf
Valerie Offut
*Project Coordinator for the Office of Federal Relations*

Michael O’Quinn
*Vice President for Government Relations*

Dr. Mark Zoran
*Assistant Associate Provost for Graduate & Professional Studies of Texas A&M University*

Mr. Michael K. Young
*President of Texas A&M University*

Josh McCormack
*Editor of The Battalion*

Matthew Etchells
*President of the Graduate and Professional Student Council*

Jamie Wangler
*Advisor to the Graduate and Professional Student Council*

Stefanie Baker
*Advisor to the Graduate and Professional Student Council*

Dr. Anne Reber
*Dean of Student Life of Texas A&M University*

Bobby Brooks
*Student Body President*

Jasmine Wang
*Speaker for the Student Senate*

Fernando Lavalle
*Author of resolution*

Brenna Lin
*Author of resolution*

Action Taken: 

Certified By: 

Christian Nygren
*Executive Vice President*

Date: 4/3/2018

Duly Approved By:

Matthew Etchells
*President*