



League of United Latin American Citizens

Resolution in Support of H-2B Visas

WHEREAS, founded in 1929, the League of United Latin American Citizens, (LULAC) is the oldest and largest Hispanic civil rights organization. LULAC advocates for the rights of Hispanics in the field of civil rights, education, voting rights, housing, and worker rights; and

WHEREAS, LULAC National now wishes to express its support for the H-2B Visa temporary worker program created in 1986, as part of the Immigration Reform and Control Act, which is essential to many seasonal employers who cannot find local temporary workers to fill jobs during their peak seasons. In addition, the program provides an opportunity for those employers to operate at a greater capacity and retain their full- time workers; and

WHEREAS, employers turn to the H-2B VISA program as a last resort, after an extensive recruitment effort to secure local workers that is required by the program. Participating in the program is extremely time-consuming and expensive. Employers who decide to utilize the H-2B program are required to establish that there are not a sufficient number of capable and qualified American workers to fill seasonal jobs before they can apply for the program; and

WHEREAS, LULAC National endorses the "Returning Worker Exemption" which was included in the FY16 appropriations bill to provide temporary relief to employers with seasonal work demands they were unable to fill with domestic workers.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that LULAC National supports an amendment to include a short term, one-year exemption once again to the 66,000 H-2B Visa cap for returning workers to assist industries with labor shortages through the following year in hopes that Congress will permanently address this matter after the election season. Until then, this is the only course of action that employers can turn to for labor relief; and

Voted and approved at the 2016 National LULAC Convention - July 16, 2016.

Roger C. Rocha, Jr.
LULAC National President