

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 2207

To temporarily increase the availability of temporary nonimmigrant non-agricultural workers for the purposes of restoring American forests, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 24, 2021

Mr. THUNE introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To temporarily increase the availability of temporary non-immigrant nonagricultural workers for the purposes of restoring American forests, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. EXEMPTION FROM H-2B NUMERICAL LIMITA-**
4 **TION FOR CERTAIN FORESTRY CONSERVA-**
5 **TION WORKERS.**

6 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 214(g) of the Immigra-
7 tion and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1184(g)) is amended
8 by adding at the end the following:

1 “(12)(A) Except as provided in subparagraph (B),
2 the numerical limitation under paragraph (1)(B) shall not
3 apply to principal aliens described in section
4 101(a)(15)(H)(ii)(b) who are employed or have received
5 an offer of employment for the work of—

6 “(i) orchard work and seed collection;

7 “(ii) tree planting;

8 “(iii) nursery care;

9 “(iv) forest management;

10 “(v) harvesting pine straw or other minor forest
11 products;

12 “(vi) timber stand improvement;

13 “(vii) herbicide application;

14 “(viii) fire prevention and fire management ac-
15 tivities;

16 “(ix) brush clearing and vegetation manage-
17 ment;

18 “(x) maintenance of right of ways;

19 “(xi) habitat protection and restoration;

20 “(xii) watershed protection and restoration;

21 “(xiii) land reclamation; or

22 “(xiv) other activities with a direct forest health
23 or conservation nexus.

24 “(B) The exemptions described in subparagraph (A)
25 shall not apply to landscaping or groundskeeping.”.

1 (b) SUNSET.—The amendment made by subsection
2 (a) shall remain in effect until the date that is 5 years
3 after the date of the enactment of this Act.

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