To permit aliens seeking asylum to be eligible for employment in the United States, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 1, 2023

Ms. Pingree introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To permit aliens seeking asylum to be eligible for employment in the United States, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Asylum Seeker Work Authorization Act of 2023”.

SEC. 2. EMPLOYMENT AUTHORIZATION FOR ALIENS SEEKING ASYLUM.

Paragraph (2) of section 208(d) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1158(d)) is amended to read as follows:
“(2) Employment Authorization.—

“(A) Eligibility.—The Secretary of Homeland Security shall authorize employment for an applicant for asylum who is not in detention and whose application for asylum has not been determined frivolous.

“(B) Application.—An applicant for asylum who is not otherwise eligible for employment authorization shall not be granted such authorization prior to 30 days after the date of filing of the application for asylum.

“(C) Term.—Employment authorization for an applicant for asylum shall be valid until the date on which an applicant is issued a final denial of the applicable application, including administrative and judicial review.”.