

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1420

To modify the requirement to remain outside of the United States for Commonwealth Only Transitional Workers, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 7, 2023

Mr. SABLAN introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To modify the requirement to remain outside of the United States for Commonwealth Only Transitional Workers, 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. AMENDMENTS TO THE REQUIREMENT TO RE-**
4 **MAIN OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 6(d)(7) of Public Law
6 94–241 (48 U.S.C. 1806(d)(7)) is amended—

7 (1) in subparagraph (A)—

1 (A) in the matter preceding clause (i), by
2 striking “subparagraph (B)” and all that fol-
3 lows through “a permit for” and inserting
4 “subparagraphs (B) and (C), a permit for”;

5 (B) by striking “(I) shall” and inserting
6 the following:

7 “(i) shall”;

8 (C) by striking “(II) may be renewed” and
9 inserting the following:

10 “(ii) may be renewed”;

11 (D) by striking “periods; and” and insert-
12 ing “periods, except that an alien may be eligi-
13 ble for an additional permit for such period if
14 at any time after the expiration of the first re-
15 newal period and prior to application for such
16 permit, the alien has remained outside the
17 United States for a continuous period of at
18 least 30 days.”; and

19 (E) by striking clause (ii); and

20 (2) by adding at the end the following:

21 “(C) DEFERRAL.—

22 “(i) MANDATORY DEFERRAL.—The
23 Secretary of Homeland Security shall defer
24 the requirement to remain outside of the
25 United States until October 1, 2026.

1 “(ii) DISCRETIONARY DEFERRAL.—
2 The Secretary of Homeland Security may
3 defer this requirement during or in connec-
4 tion with—

5 “(I) a presidentially declared
6 major disaster or emergency under
7 section 401 or 501 of the Robert T.
8 Stafford Disaster Relief and Emer-
9 gency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5170
10 or 5191); or

11 “(II) a presidentially declared na-
12 tional emergency under section 201 of
13 the National Emergencies Act (50
14 U.S.C. 1601 et seq.).”.

15 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
16 this section shall take effect as if included in the enact-
17 ment of Public Law 115–218.

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