

To: Congressman John Doe
1119 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

From: Stephen L. Pushor
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Date: September 17, 2018

Subject: Opposition to H.R.392: Fairness for High-Skilled Immigrants Act of 2018

Dear Congressman Doe:

The U.S. is losing thousands of white-collar jobs each month, and millions of jobs since 2000, due in part to visas and their multiplier effect. Income disparity is now the new normal while the middle class is being hollowed out. Many highly valued information technology (IT) and medical jobs are part of this horrible state of affairs.

I am writing to ask that you oppose **HR 392: Fairness for High-Skilled Immigrants Act of 2018**. It is attached as an amendment to the House FY19 Homeland Security Appropriations Bill. This bill amends the Immigration and Nationality Act to eliminate the per-country numerical limitation based on a 7% per country cap on H-1B employment-based immigrants for green cards to become issued on a first-come, first-served basis.

India and China have the largest numerical backlog for green cards, and HR 392 will disburse the majority of green cards to these two countries, in effect crowding out the rest of the countries of the world and diminishing immigration diversity in our country. By some estimates, up to 70% of green cards would be issued to Indians.

Current U.S. science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) and medical professionals – including doctors – will lose opportunities to these green card holders. If this legislation passes, green card holders from India would increase their market power to discriminate and crowd out America middle-class technical and medical jobs we all so value.

In fact, the effects of H-1B cheap labor from India have been well publicized and are well known for the negative effect on American workers. Many skilled technical professionals have lost their livelihoods and their homes, suffering life-changing events, due to the explosion of cheap foreign H-1B labor into the United States.

HR 392 will accelerate job loss to the point where STEM jobs in this country could disappear to foreign-based labor. Too many IT professionals already have been humiliated having to train their foreign replacements in order to receive severance pay before being tossed aside. The body politic, for which you serve, cannot continue to betray its own citizens.

The U.S. built much of the technology the world uses today. We now are handing over the family jewels to foreign interests and disavowing our young STEM graduates who cannot compete with cheap labor while burdened with student debt and high living costs. As well, we encourage age discrimination against our older STEM professional class. HR 392 will make this already bad dream a real nightmare.

My fellow professionals are scared for their future. We are scared for our children's future. We are scared that talented children who are naturals for STEM and medical fields will be denied future employment opportunities. We've seen that cheap H-1B labor has been particularly damaging to STEM college graduates who cannot find entry-level positions.

This measure is a radical change in American immigration policy. The obvious consequences are many, and the unintended consequences may result in much disruption. Yet, the measure has had no public debate and no hearings. It has been attached to the DHS appropriations bill, seemingly to remain obscured. Because this is an immigration policy change, this should NOT be attached to an appropriations bill.

HR 392 has been pushed entirely by foreign interests, specifically the Indian advocacy group, Immigration Voice, with a goal of obtaining Congressional approval before the end of 2018.

HR 392: Fairness for High-Skilled Immigrants Act of 2018 would:

- Award all employment-based green cards to India for about six years.
- Award all such green cards to India, China and the Philippines for about two more years.
- After that, about 70-75% of the green cards would go to India.
- Require guest workers to get an H-1B visa before getting a green card.
- Exclude others from occupations that are not H-1B eligible to obtain employment-based green cards.

The effect would be to replace our system of diversity in immigration – in place since 1965 – with an "India First" immigration policy.

In summary, STEM and IT workers from India and China are in a fair queue for green cards based on 7% per country per year limit. This 7% limit protects the diversity of the U.S. population. The change in the law from this bill is designed to destroy the 7% per country limit per year for green cards.

It essentially allows an open door for many more foreign workers, especially Indians, to join the U.S. market as soon as possible. It will allow greater freedom of movement and more Indian nationals to become hiring managers to not hire American workers in medical fields and IT, **disadvantaging our STEM graduates and forcing them to compete with cheaper foreign labor.** It crowds out other countries in the world from obtaining green cards and **diminishes diversity in our great country.**

Please join me in opposition to HR 392: Fairness for High-Skilled Immigrants Act of 2018, for it will do great harm to America.

Sincerely,

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