

Unfortunately, H.R. 6429 lets unused visas go to waste, and forces legal immigrants to continue to suffer in long backlogs.

In addition, I have serious concerns that this legislation automatically allows for-profit and on-line schools to participate in the new STEM green card program.

It's not too late for my Republican colleagues to change course, and sit down with Democrats to work on a bipartisan bill that strengthens the STEM visa program without limiting legal immigration.

I urge my colleagues to stand in solidarity and vote "no" on this attempt to reduce legal immigration.

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to H.R. 6429, the misnamed STEM Jobs Act of 2012.

The ability our nation to attract the world's best and brightest has contributed greatly to the creation of American jobs and the success of American businesses large and small. However, many foreign students who graduate from our best universities in the science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) fields become victims of a broken visa system. The absence of specific visas for graduates in these critical fields has resulted in long wait times and forces many to move back home, taking their valuable skills out of the American economy. Clearly, the time has come for change.

Unfortunately, H.R. 6429 isn't the change we need. It follows the pattern of the Republicans' approach of giving with one hand while taking with the other. This bill would create STEM visas at the expense of eliminating the Diversity Visa Program. Diversity visas provide a legal path for people from countries with low rates of immigration to the United States. Half the recipients are from Africa and almost a third are from Asia.

Democrats and Republicans agree that we should establish a STEM visa program, but unfortunately Republicans inserted a poison pill in this bill that guarantees it will not pass. It is also clear that the Senate will not take up the bill with this provision included.

We in Hawaii know that diversity is a strength. Hawaii has been enriched by the diverse immigrants who call it home, hailing from places like the Philippines, Japan, Samoa, Portugal, and around the Pacific Rim. While I believe we should be looking for ways to encourage the best and brightest to come to our shores and create American jobs, we don't need to do it at the expense of the Diversity Visa Program.

As an immigrant, I know the promise America offers and the hopes of those who come to our shores seeking a better life. That's why I support efforts to improve our immigration system and encourage those with needed skills to come and work for our businesses. Furthermore, a strong economic foundation depends on a world class American education system that prepares the young people of our country to compete in the STEM fields. I am convinced we can find a way to come together to create a fair STEM Visa Program and to strengthen our STEM education so more Americans can get these jobs.

H.R. 6429 is a flawed bill, and I urge my colleagues to oppose it.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. SMITH) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 6429.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the yeas have it.

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, proceedings will resume on questions previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order: passage of House Joint Resolution 118; the motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 6429; and the motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 5987.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. Remaining electronic votes will be conducted as 5-minute votes.

DISAPPROVING RULE RELATING TO WAIVER AND EXPENDITURE AUTHORITY WITH RESPECT TO THE TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES PROGRAM

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on passage of the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 118) providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Office of Family Assistance of the Administration for Children and Families of the Department of Health and Human Services relating to waiver and expenditure authority under section 1115 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1315) with respect to the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the joint resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the passage of the joint resolution.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 250, nays 164, not voting 15, as follows:

[Roll No. 589]

YEAS—250

Adams	Bilirakis	Camp
Aderholt	Bishop (UT)	Campbell
Alexander	Black	Canseco
Amash	Blackburn	Cantor
Amodei	Bonner	Capito
Austria	Bono Mack	Carter
Bachmann	Boren	Cassidy
Bachus	Boswell	Chabot
Barber	Boustany	Chaffetz
Barletta	Brady (TX)	Chandler
Barrow	Brooks	Coble
Bartlett	Broun (GA)	Coffman (CO)
Barton (TX)	Buchanan	Cole
Bass (NH)	Bucshon	Conaway
Benishchek	Buerkle	Cravaack
Berg	Burgess	Crawford
Biggart	Burton (IN)	Crenshaw
Bilbray	Calvert	Culberson

Denham	King (IA)	Price (GA)
Dent	King (NY)	Quayle
DesJarlais	Kingston	Reed
Diaz-Balart	Kinzinger (IL)	Rehberg
Dold	Kissell	Reichert
Donnelly (IN)	Klaine	Renacci
Dreier	Labrador	Ribble
Duffy	Lamborn	Rigell
Duncan (SC)	Lance	Rivera
Duncan (TN)	Landry	Roby
Ellmers	Lankford	Roe (TN)
Emerson	Latham	Rogers (AL)
Farenthold	LaTourette	Rogers (KY)
Fincher	Latta	Rogers (MI)
Fitzpatrick	Lewis (CA)	Rohrabacher
Flake	Lipinski	Rokita
Fleischmann	LoBiondo	Rooney
Fleming	Loeb sack	Ros-Lehtinen
Flores	Long	Roskam
Forbes	Lucas	Ross (FL)
Fortenberry	Luetkemeyer	Royce
Fox	Lummis	Runyan
Franks (AZ)	Lungren, Daniel	Ryan (WI)
Frelinghuysen	E.	Scalise
Garamendi	Lynch	Schilling
Gardner	Manzullo	Schock
Garrett	Marchant	Schweikert
Gerlach	Marino	Scott (SC)
Gibbs	Matheson	Scott, Austin
Gibson	McCarthy (CA)	Sensenbrenner
Gingrey (GA)	McCaul	Sessions
Gohmert	McClintock	Shimkus
Goodlatte	McHenry	Shuler
Gosar	McIntyre	Shuster
Gowdy	McKeon	Simpson
Graves (GA)	McKinley	Smith (NE)
Graves (MO)	McMorris	Smith (NJ)
Griffin (AR)	Rodgers	Smith (TX)
Griffith (VA)	McNerney	Southerland
Grimm	Meehan	Stearns
Guinta	Mica	Stivers
Guthrie	Michaud	Stutzman
Hall	Miller (FL)	Terry
Hanna	Miller (MI)	Thompson (PA)
Harper	Miller, Gary	Thornberry
Harris	Mulvaney	Tiberi
Hartzler	Murphy (PA)	Tipton
Hastings (WA)	Myrick	Turner (NY)
Hayworth	Neugebauer	Turner (OH)
Heck	Noem	Upton
Hensarling	Nugent	Walberg
Herger	Nunes	Walden
Herrera Beutler	Nunnelee	Walsh (IL)
Hochul	Olson	Webster
Huelskamp	Owens	West
Huizenga (MI)	Palazzo	Westmoreland
Hultgren	Paul	Whitfield
Hunter	Paulsen	Wilson (SC)
Hurt	Pearce	Wittman
Issa	Pence	Wolf
Johnson (IL)	Peterson	Womack
Johnson (OH)	Petri	Woodall
Johnson, Sam	Pitts	Yoder
Jones	Poe (TX)	Young (AK)
Jordan	Pompeo	Young (FL)
Kelly	Posey	Young (IN)

NAYS—164

Ackerman	Connolly (VA)	Gutierrez
Altire	Conyers	Hahn
Andrews	Cooper	Hanabusa
Baca	Costa	Hastings (FL)
Baldwin	Costello	Heinrich
Bass (CA)	Courtney	Higgins
Becerra	Critz	Himes
Berkley	Crowley	Hinche
Berman	Cuellar	Hinojosa
Bishop (GA)	Cummings	Hirono
Bishop (NY)	Davis (CA)	Holden
Blumenauer	DeFazio	Holt
Bonamici	DeGette	Honda
Brady (PA)	DeLauro	Hoyer
Bralley (IA)	Deutch	Israel
Brown (FL)	Dicks	Jackson Lee
Butterfield	Dingell	(TX)
Capps	Doggett	Johnson (GA)
Capuano	Doyle	Johnson, E. B.
Carnahan	Edwards	Kaptur
Carney	Ellison	Keating
Carson (IN)	Engel	Kildee
Castor (FL)	Eshoo	Kind
Chu	Farr	Kucinich
Cicilline	Fattah	Langevin
Clarke (MI)	Frank (MA)	Larsen (WA)
Clarke (NY)	Fudge	Larson (CT)
Clay	Gonzalez	Lee (CA)
Cleaver	Green, Al	Levin
Clyburn	Green, Gene	Lewis (GA)
Cohen	Grijalva	Lofgren, Zoe