

119TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 8683

To amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to codify the Optional Practical Training program.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 7, 2026

Mrs. FOUSHEE introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to codify the Optional Practical Training program.

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. CODIFY OPTIONAL PRACTICAL TRAINING PRO-**

4 **GRAM.**

5 (a) COURSE OF STUDY.—Section 101(a)(15)(F)(i) of
6 the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C.
7 1101(a)(15)(F)(i)) is amended by inserting after “course
8 of study” the second times it appears “, including prac-
9 tical training and employment authorization described
10 under section 214(m)(3),”.

1 (b) PRACTICAL TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT AU-
2 THORIZATION.—Section 214(m) of the Immigration and
3 Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1184(m)) is amended by adding
4 at the end the following:

5 “(3)(A) With respect to an alien who obtains
6 the status of a nonimmigrant under section
7 101(a)(15)(F)(i), a full course of study may include
8 practical training and employment authorization for
9 a period of up to 24 months if such employment is
10 related to the field of study undertaken by the non-
11 immigrant.

12 “(B) With respect to an alien who obtains
13 the status of a nonimmigrant under section
14 101(a)(15)(F)(i) and is pursuing or has com-
15 pleted a full course of study in a science, tech-
16 nology, engineering, or mathematics field, a full
17 course of study may include practical training
18 and employment authorization for a period of
19 up to 48 months if such employment is related
20 to the field of study undertaken by the non-
21 immigrant.

22 “(C) The Secretary of Homeland Security
23 may establish terms and conditions necessary
24 for the practical training and employment au-
25 thorization period.”.

1 (c) NURSING.—The Secretary of Homeland Security
2 shall take such actions as may be necessary to make nurs-
3 ing a science, technology, engineering, or mathematics
4 field for the purpose of section 214(m)(3)(B) of the Immi-
5 gration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1184(m)(3)(B)).

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