

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1292

To permanently authorize the exemption of aliens working as fish processors from the numerical limitation on H-2B nonimmigrant visas.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 3, 2025

Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. KAINE, Mr. WARNER, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. TILLIS, and Ms. ALSOBROOKS) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To permanently authorize the exemption of aliens working as fish processors from the numerical limitation on H-2B nonimmigrant visas.

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. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Save Our Seafood
5 Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. EXEMPTION OF ALIENS WORKING AS FISH PROC-**
 2 **ESSORS FROM THE NUMERICAL LIMITATION**
 3 **ON H-2B NONIMMIGRANT VISAS.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 214(g)(10) of the Immi-
 5 gration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1184(g)(10)) is
 6 amended—

7 (1) by striking “The numerical limitations of
 8 paragraph (1)(B)” and inserting “(A) The numer-
 9 ical limitation under paragraph (1)(B)”; and

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

11 “(B)(i) The numerical limitation under paragraph
 12 (1)(B) shall not apply to any nonimmigrant alien issued
 13 a visa or otherwise provided status under section
 14 101(a)(15)(H)(ii)(b) who is employed (or has received an
 15 offer of employment)—

16 “(I) as a fish roe processor, a fish roe techni-
 17 cian, or a supervisor of fish roe processing; or

18 “(II) as a fish processor.

19 “(ii) As used in clause (i)—

20 “(I) the term ‘fish’ means fresh or saltwater
 21 finfish, mollusks, crustaceans, and all other forms of
 22 aquatic animal life, including the roe of such ani-
 23 mals, other than marine mammals and birds; and

24 “(II) the term ‘processor’—

25 “(aa) means any person engaged in the
 26 processing of fish, including handling, storing,

1 preparing, heading, eviscerating, shucking,
2 freezing, changing into different market forms,
3 manufacturing, preserving, packing, labeling,
4 dockside unloading, holding, and all other proc-
5 essing activities; and

6 “(bb) does not include any person engaged
7 in—

8 “(AA) harvesting or transporting fish
9 or fishery products without otherwise en-
10 gaging in processing;

11 “(BB) practices such as heading, evis-
12 cerating, or freezing intended solely to pre-
13 pare a fish for holding on board a harvest
14 vessel; or

15 “(CC) operating a retail establish-
16 ment.”.

17 (b) REPEAL.—Section 14006 of the Department of
18 Defense Appropriations Act, 2005 (Public Law 108–287)
19 is repealed.

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