

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

October 30, 2025

The Honorable Donald J. Trump
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Trump:

We write to urge your Administration to maintain and strengthen the H-1B visa program, and to share our concerns regarding the proclamation made on September 19, 2025, impeding the entry of workers under this program. As members of a recent delegation to India, we recognize the importance of the H-1B program not just to the United States economy, national security, and competitive advantage, but also to our relationship with India, and to the Indian-American communities that we represent. We respectfully request that you suspend the September 19 proclamation and reconsider any policy that would decrease appropriate access to the H-1B program.

The H-1B program is a cornerstone of U.S. competitiveness in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM). Research consistently shows that H-1B professionals boost U.S. innovation, patent production, and business formation, complementing rather than displacing American workers. Indian nationals, who make up the largest share of H-1B recipients, are central to U.S. leadership in information technology and artificial intelligence.¹ Many of America's most successful companies were founded or led by former H-1B holders,² who drive new businesses, job creation, and keep the United States at the forefront of technological progress.³ Indian-Americans and other H-1B holders also comprise a thriving constituency in each of our districts, enhancing our local economies, contributing to our academic and civic institutions, and strengthening our communities.

At a time when China is investing aggressively in artificial intelligence and advanced technologies, America must continue attracting the world's best talent to maintain our innovation ecosystem, strengthen the defense industrial base, and preserve our long-term competitive edge. In the case of India, the country of origin for 71 percent of H-1B holders last year, attracting this talent also reinforces our strategic partnership with a key democratic partner in the Indo-Pacific.

The H-1B program is not simply about addressing labor needs; it is about securing U.S. leadership in the industries that will define global power in the 21st century. For these reasons, we respectfully urge you to preserve and expand the H-1B program to strengthen America's technological leadership, create jobs for American workers, and safeguard our national security.

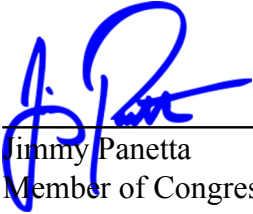
¹ Center for Security and Emerging Technology (CSET), *"Most of America's Most Promising AI Startups Have Immigrant Founders,"* Georgetown University, 2023.

² Kauffman Foundation, *"Immigration and Entrepreneurship in the United States,"* 2016.

³ William Kerr & William Lincoln, *"The Supply Side of Innovation: H-1B Visa Reforms and U.S. Ethnic Invention,"* NBER Working Paper No. 15768, 2010.

Thank you for your attention to our request; we look forward to working with you on this important matter.

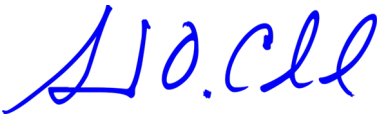
Sincerely,



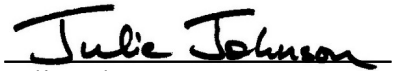
Jimmy Panetta
Member of Congress



Ami Bera, M.D.
Member of Congress



Salud Carbajal
Member of Congress



Julie Johnson
Member of Congress



Derek T. Tran
Member of Congress

Cc:
Secretary Marco Rubio, Department of State
Secretary Kristi Noem, Department of Homeland Security
Secretary Lori Chavez-DeRemer, Department of Labor