

**Assembly Joint Resolution**

**No. 12**

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**Introduced by Assembly Members Eduardo Garcia, Brown, and  
Roger Hernández  
(Coauthors: Assembly Members Chiu, Cristina Garcia, Gonzalez,  
and Rendon)**

March 24, 2015

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Assembly Joint Resolution No. 12—Relative to the H-1B Visa program.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL’S DIGEST

AJR 12, as introduced, Eduardo Garcia. H-1B Visa program: Southern California Edison Company.

This measure would urge the United States Department of Labor and the Congress of the United States to investigate alleged misuse of the H1-B Visa program by Southern California Edison Company.

Fiscal committee: no.

- 1 WHEREAS, The H-1B Visa program allows businesses to
- 2 temporarily hire highly skilled foreign workers with specialized
- 3 knowledge where a qualified United States worker cannot be found;
- 4 and
- 5 WHEREAS, The H-1B Visa program was never intended to be
- 6 used as a catalyst for laying off United State’s workers and replacing
- 7 them with H-1B workers; and
- 8 WHEREAS, The granting of H-1B Visas should never result in
- 9 the creation of a virtual pipeline for outsourcing United States
- 10 workforce jobs; and

1 WHEREAS, California’s average unemployment rate in January  
2 2015 was 6.9 percent with Imperial County’s unemployment rate  
3 being 20.6 percent; and

4 WHEREAS, Southern California Edison Company is reported  
5 to be misusing the federal H-1B Visa program to replace 400  
6 California workers; and

7 WHEREAS, Southern California Edison Company has admitted  
8 that these laid-off workers are being replaced by overseas  
9 consulting services; and

10 WHEREAS, Senate Bill No. 477 (Chapter 711 of the Statutes  
11 of 2014) seeks to end the exploitation of foreign, temporary,  
12 nonimmigrant workers brought to California under various federal  
13 work visa programs; and

14 WHEREAS, Displaced American workers are being exploited  
15 through the misapplication of the H-1B Visa program; now,  
16 therefore, be it

17 *Resolved by the Assembly and the Senate of the State of*  
18 *California, jointly,* That the Legislature respectfully urge the United  
19 States Department of Labor and the Congress of the United States  
20 to investigate this alleged misuse of the H1-B Visa program by  
21 Southern California Edison Company; and be it further

22 *Resolved,* That Southern California Edison Company is urged  
23 to discontinue the practice of replacing California employees with  
24 foreign workers under this, or any other, program; and be it further

25 *Resolved,* That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies  
26 of this resolution to the President and Vice President of the United  
27 States, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Minority  
28 Leader of the House of Representatives, the Majority Leader of  
29 the Senate, the Minority Leader of the Senate, and each Senator  
30 and Representative from California in the Congress of the United  
31 States.

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