

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 26, 2015

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2015–16 REGULAR SESSION

Assembly Joint Resolution

No. 12

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

March 24, 2015

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

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AJR 12, as amended, Eduardo Garcia. H-1B Visa program: ~~Southern California Edison Company.~~ *investigation of misuse.*

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.~~ *program.*

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 ~~lying~~ *laying* off United ~~State's~~ *States'* workers
7 and replacing 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~~ *Some companies are* misusing the federal H-1B Visa
6 program, *including the documented misuse by one California public*
7 *utility* to replace 400 California workers; and

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

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

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

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

24 *Resolved,* That ~~Southern California Edison Company is urged~~
25 ~~to discontinue~~ *any company that has engaged in this improper*
26 *practice is urged to immediately cease* the practice of replacing
27 California employees with foreign workers under this, or any other,
28 program; and be it further

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

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