

H-2B

WORKFORCE COALITION

Protecting American Workers Through a Stable and Reliable Seasonal Workforce

www.h2bworkforcecoalition.com

Brian Crawford, Co-Chair
American Hotel &
Lodging Association

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Laurie Flanagan, Co-Chair
AmericanHort
National Association of Landscape
Professionals

Gregg Hartley, Co-Chair
Outdoor Amusement Business
Association

Statement on Supplemental H-2B Visas

Steering Committee:

American Hotel and Lodging Association

American Horse Council

AmericanHort

Atlantic Seafood Jobs Alliance

Federation of Employers and Workers of
America

Forest Resources Association

Golf Course Superintendents Association
of America

National Association of Landscape
Professionals

Outdoor Amusement Business
Association

Seasonal Employment Alliance

U.S. Chamber of Commerce

Yesterday, the Department of Homeland Security announced that it plans to make 35,000 supplemental H-2B visas available this fiscal year. While we appreciate that this marks the highest number of supplemental visas that the Department has proposed to release, the number still falls well short of meeting the workforce needs of seasonal employers across the country. In addition, the Department proposes to include several new conditions upon American businesses seeking to employ workers on these additional H-2B visas. These conditions are likely to prevent many seasonal employers from taking advantage of the new visas to meet their workforce needs.

We urge DHS to reconsider the impact that these new conditions will have on seasonal employers across the country. Furthermore, we implore Congress to permanently update the H-2B cap to reflect the workforce needs of the American economy that exists today, not the one that existed 30 years ago.