



The Honorable Dana Rohrabacher
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

July 6, 2016

Dear Congressman Rohrabacher,

I am writing to commend both you and Rep. Pascrell for introducing the H-1B and L-1 Visa Reform Act in the House. Introduced last year in the Senate by Senators Grassley and Durbin, this bill will correct many of the worst abuses in these two visa programs. In doing so it will protect American jobs, curb abuses of skilled non-American workers and promote economic growth in the United States.

It is more than clear that the H-1b and L-1 visa programs are being used by major companies across our economy to hire cheap, disposable workers in place of their American employees. Reports of Americans being fired and replaced by non-Americans, who will never be invited to become Americans, can no longer be dismissed as mere "anecdotes." Rather, outsourcing companies dominate the H-1B and L-1 programs, annually costing America tens of thousands of good, middle-class jobs.

The H-1B and L-1 Visa Reform Act will eliminate many of these abuses, while still allowing the programs to function as intended. Among its reforms are requirements that companies try to find Americans before turning to an H-1B visa, employ no more than half their workers on H-1B and L-1 visas, and pay their temporary workers American wages. IEEE-USA applauds these and the other many common-sense reforms found in your bill.

IEEE-USA enthusiastically supports efforts to expand high-skill immigration. But neither the H-1B nor the L-1 visa has anything to do with immigration. There can be no doubt that companies are using these visas to avoid employing Americans in jobs in the United States. The American people have a right to compete fairly for jobs in their own country – and they expect Congress to protect this right.

IEEE-USA is an organizational unit of the IEEE, the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers. We are the largest representative of technology professionals in the United States. Our 200,000 members include power engineers, computer programmers, aerospace engineers and other professionals involved with the creation and use of advanced technologies. Our members include Americans and non-Americans and are the men and women most directly impacted by temporary visa abuse.

Thank you again for introducing this important legislation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peter Eckstein".

Peter Eckstein
President, IEEE-USA