



# STATE SPONSORED VISA PILOT PROGRAM ACT

*frequently asked questions*

**1**

## **WOULD A STATE SPONSORED VISA REPLACE OTHER WORKER VISA PROGRAMS?**

No. Employers will still be able to sponsor workers on their own. This simply gives States an additional tool to bring in the number and types of workers they need.

**2**

## **WILL THE STATE SPONSORED VISA PILOT PROGRAM ACT GIVE STATES BLANKET POWER OVER IMMIGRATION WITHIN THEIR BORDERS?**

Absolutely not. While States are responsible for developing the specifics of their programs based on their need, they must get approval from the Department of Homeland Security before implementation. Additionally, every state program must meet specific requirements, including a process to request workers and report back to the federal government. States also must petition the federal government for individual workers they want to sponsor.

**3**

## **WHAT WILL KEEP STATES ACCOUNTABLE?**

States are not on their own to do whatever they want and must report back to the Federal government yearly. Additionally, there are consequences for States who break the rules and incentives for States to comply with program requirements.

**4**

## **WHO WILL COMPLETE BACKGROUND CHECKS AND GIVE ULTIMATE APPROVAL FOR WORKERS TO ENTER THE COUNTRY?**

Background checks and worker approval will be done by the Federal government through the Department of State and Department of Homeland Security.

**5**

## **ARE STATES REQUIRED TO PARTICIPATE?**

No. The pilot program is completely optional – and it's not a quick decision. To participate, States must prove they are committed. For petitions to be approved, programs must be approved by the State legislature.

## **FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

[CURTIS.HOUSE.GOV](http://CURTIS.HOUSE.GOV)