

# Let's Open the Door for Utah Graduates and Workers

---

From Phil Lyman <phil@lymanforutah.com>

To 

Date Wednesday, May 6th, 2026 at 15:00

---



Friends,

Every year, the University of Utah files hundreds of applications to bring foreign workers into the state on H-1B visas. Last fiscal year they filed 196 of these applications with the Department of Labor. Zero were denied.

That is not a hiring process. It's a rubber stamp.

The H-1B program is being used as a low-cost labor pipeline. That's not acceptable.

When the University of Utah files this many applications without a single denial, that's not a program with meaningful oversight. It's an open door. And while that door stays open, Utah graduates are getting the door to opportunity slammed shut in their faces.

Celeste Maloy has advocated expanding these guest worker programs, going as far as hosting a roundtable with the U.S. Labor Secretary to discuss how she could help flood our state with cheap foreign labor. When asked about protecting jobs for Utah workers at a recent campaign event, she said that Utahns do not want to work.

I have a different view. Utah has some of the most educated, hardworking, and capable young people in the country. They are graduating from universities right here in this state. They are ready and willing to work. And they deserve to be first in line for the opportunities that Utah's economy produces, not shoved to the side because of a system that makes it easier and cheaper for employers to import workers.

This is not a complicated question. It is a question of who Utah's economy is supposed to benefit.

Last month, Arizona Congressman Eli Crane introduced the End H-1B Visa Abuse Act of 2026. The bill would pause new H-1B visa issuances for three years while Congress implements real reforms. When the program resumes, it would operate under a wage-based selection system instead of a lottery, require employers to certify that no qualified American worker is available before a visa can be issued, cut the annual cap from 65,000 to 25,000, and set a \$200,000 minimum salary requirement for H-1B hires so the program cannot be used to undercut American wages.

That is what accountability looks like.

I support this bill. When I get to Congress, I will cosponsor it and push for its passage. The federal government should work for hardworking citizens, not the profit margins of corporations that have decided it is cheaper to import workers than to hire and train the Utahns who are ready and willing to do the job.

Utah workers deserve that. Utah graduates deserve that. And they deserve a congressman who will fight for it.

Sincerely,

Phil

Donate



[View email in browser](#)

Lyman for Utah · 333 S Main St · Blanding, UT 84511 · USA

[update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe](#)