

H-1B Visa Reform

- **NAGPS supports comprehensive immigration reform to encourage retention of advanced-degree holders educated in the U.S. in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM)**
- **Highly-educated immigrants improve the U.S. economy:**
 - 1) **Research by the World Bank indicates that increasing H-1B visas for PhDs in science and engineering would greatly increase technology innovation measured by number of patents ^[1]**
 - 2) **Create jobs by complementing skill sets of U.S. workers. Technology companies in the U.S. employ five additional people for each H-1B request ^[2]**
 - 3) **Maintain American leadership in high-technology sectors that support long-term growth (information technology, biotechnology, energy, etc.)**
 - 4) **Limiting foreign STEM workers in the U.S. forces companies to move operation to other countries ^[3]**
- **In 2008, the Citizenship and Immigration Services received more than 163,000 applications in five days for only 85,000 H-1B visas, including 31,200 applications for only 20,000 advanced-degree visas**
- **U.S. Senate passed a bill in 2006 (S.2611) to raise the quota for H-1B from 65,000 to 115,000 with no cap on holders of U.S. graduate degrees. This bill died in conference**

**Support Exemption of U.S.-educated STEM
Advanced-degree Graduates from
H-1B Visa Caps**

Who we are:

- National Association of Graduate-Professional Students
<http://www.nagps.org/>

References and resources:

[1] Chellaraj G., Maskus K.E., Mattoo A. “The Contribution of Skilled Immigration and International Graduate Students to U.S. Innovation.” *World Bank Policy Research Working Paper 3588*, May 2005.

<http://www-wds.worldbank.org/>

[2] “H-1B Visas and Job Creation.” National Foundation for American Policy. NFAP Policy Brief, March 2008. <http://www.nfap.com/pdf/080311h1b.pdf>

[3] “Driving Jobs and Innovation Offshore: The Impact of High-Skill Immigration Restrictions on America.” National Foundation for American Policy. NFAP Policy Brief, December 2007.

<http://www.nfap.com/pdf/071206study.pdf>