

# Union Calendar No. 560

116<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION

# H. R. 4479

**[Report No. 116–676, Part I]**

To temporarily provide Commonwealth-only transitional worker permits for workers in construction occupations involved in disaster recovery, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 24, 2019

Mr. SABLAN introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

DECEMBER 18, 2020

Reported from the Committee on Natural Resources with an amendment

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in *italic*]

DECEMBER 18, 2020

Committee on the Judiciary discharged; committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed

[For text of introduced bill, see copy of bill as introduced on September 24, 2019]

# **A BILL**

To temporarily provide Commonwealth-only transitional worker permits for workers in construction occupations involved in disaster recovery, and for other purposes.

1        *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4        *This Act may be cited as the “Disaster Recovery Work-*  
5 *force Act”.*

6 **SEC. 2. CONSTRUCTION WORKER PERMITS.**

7        *Section 6(d)(3) of the Joint Resolution entitled “Joint*  
8 *Resolution to approve the ‘Covenant To Establish a Com-*  
9 *monwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in Political*  
10 *Union with the United States of America’, and for other*  
11 *purposes” (48 U.S.C. 1806(d)(3)) is amended by adding at*  
12 *the end the following:*

13                    *“(E) TYPHOON RECOVERY.—*

14                    *“(i) PERMITS FOR CONSTRUCTION*  
15 *WORKERS.—Notwithstanding any numer-*  
16 *ical cap set forth in subparagraph (B) for*  
17 *each of fiscal years 2020, 2021, and 2022,*  
18 *the Secretary of Homeland Security shall*  
19 *increase by 3,000, for each such fiscal year,*  
20 *the total number of permits available under*  
21 *this subsection for Construction and Extrac-*  
22 *tion Occupations (as defined by the Depart-*  
23 *ment of Labor as Standard Occupational*  
24 *Classification Group 47–0000).*

1           “(i) *PERMIT REQUIREMENTS.*—*The*  
2           *Secretary may only issue a permit made*  
3           *available under clause (i) to a prospective*  
4           *employer if the permit is for an alien*  
5           *who—*

6                       “(I) *is a national of a country*  
7                       *designated eligible to participate in the*  
8                       *program under section*  
9                       *101(a)(15)(H)(i)(b) of the Immigra-*  
10                      *tion and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C.*  
11                      *1101(a)(15)(H)(i)(b)) during calendar*  
12                      *year 2018; and*

13                     “(II) *is performing service or*  
14                     *labor pursuant to a contract or sub-*  
15                     *contract for construction, repairs, ren-*  
16                     *ovations, or facility services directly*  
17                     *connected to, or associated with recov-*  
18                     *ery from a presidentially declared*  
19                     *major disaster or emergency (as those*  
20                     *terms are defined in section 102 of the*  
21                     *Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and*  
22                     *Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C.*  
23                     *5122), or for preparation for a future*  
24                     *disaster or emergency.*

1                   “(iii) *EXCEPTION FOR CONSTRUCTION*  
2                   *WORKERS.—Subparagraph (D)(v) shall not*  
3                   *apply to a permit made available under*  
4                   *clause (i) for any fiscal year described in*  
5                   *such clause.*”.

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