



WORKFORCE CHALLENGES IN THE ATTRACTIONS INDUSTRY

The attractions industry, encompassing amusement parks, museums, zoos, and other entertainment venues, faces several workforce challenges that impact its ability to provide memorable experiences to visitors. These challenges require strategic solutions to ensure that attractions continue to delight visitors around the country.

Recruitment and Retention: Many of our members operate on a seasonal basis, which makes it difficult to attract and retain quality candidates. It also means increased recruitment costs and challenges to maintain consistent service quality.

That's why our members rely on programs like Summer Work Travel, H-2B visas, and other federal programs to supplement our domestic workforce. We urge you to maintain crucial support for these kinds of programs.

Ask: Support inclusion of H-2B exemption language which would exempt H-2B returning workers who were issued an H-2B visa during one of the previous three fiscal years from the annual cap. Both House and Senate Appropriations Committees are on record as supporting the H-2B cap relief in any final bill.

Skilled Labor Shortage: On the other side of the workforce coin, our industry joins with others in urging Congress to continue work on improving federal workforce development programs, through legislation like the Workforce

Innovation and Opportunity Act and vocational education programs. Many of our facilities need on-demand highly skilled labor force that can maintain and repair cutting edge equipment and also complete required daily operational maintenance to keep our attractions in good working order.

As older Americans in trades retire, we need the federal government to continue their investment in programs that grow the trades population. Historic emphasis on streamlining programs, removing duplicative paperwork requirements, and encouraging local cooperation between educators, businesses, and students has helped tremendously. Yet this is not the time to stop that growing progress.

Affordable Housing and Transportation: Our communities face a generational test right now in providing affordable housing options for all Americans. The attractions industry is no stranger to that need either. Our members have stepped up and worked with their local communities to provide seasonal employee housing or to create affordable housing options for their year-round staff.

As the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act continues to be implemented, Congress and the Executive must look for additional solutions to address housing and transportation needs.

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