



1           WHEREAS, to employ workers under the H-2A program, an employer is required  
2 to provide domestic workers, including H-2A workers, with adequate housing,  
3 transportation, and meals, and pay wages in accordance with the current Adverse Effect  
4 Wage Rate, as determined by the United State Department of Labor; and

5           WHEREAS, despite the seasonality and agricultural nature of Louisiana's crawfish  
6 industry, current federal regulations classify job duties involving crawfish processing and  
7 related work as nonagricultural, restricting employers to the oversubscribed and highly  
8 competitive H-2B Temporary Non-agricultural Workers Program; and

9           WHEREAS, the H-2B program's limited visa cap, unpredictable supplemental visa  
10 allotments, and lengthy processing delays have caused severe workforce shortages in  
11 Louisiana's crawfish industry, resulting in reduced farm production, limited processing  
12 capacity, financial losses, and significant disruptions across the supply chain, largely due to  
13 administrative rulemaking regarding visa certifications, job duty classifications, and  
14 supplemental visa distributions; and

15           WHEREAS, the H-2A program is specifically designed to meet seasonal agricultural  
16 labor needs; and

17           WHEREAS, classifying all job duties performed by a crawfish worker, including but  
18 not limited to fishing, baiting, handling, weighing, washing, grading, tagging, cleaning,  
19 processing, peeling, packaging, freezing, and preparation of crawfish for sale as agricultural  
20 labor would bring federal policy into alignment with the operational reality of crawfish  
21 farming and would stabilize the workforce that Louisiana's crawfish industry depends on;  
22 and

23           WHEREAS, ensuring an adequate, legal, and dependable labor supply is vital to the  
24 survival of Louisiana's crawfish farmers, processors, and associated rural economies.

25           THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby  
26 memorialize the United States Congress, the President of the United States, the United States  
27 Department of Labor, the United States Department of Homeland Security, and the members  
28 of the Louisiana Congressional Delegation to take all necessary and appropriate actions to  
29 reclassify all job duties of the crawfish industry as agricultural labor services for purposes  
30 of the H-2A Temporary Agricultural Workers Program.

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that reclassification should include revisions to  
2 federal statutes, regulations, or administrative interpretations, as needed, to ensure that  
3 Louisiana crawfish producers and processors will be able to utilize the H-2A program to  
4 meet their essential seasonal workforce needs immediately.

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the action to reclassify the job duties of the  
6 crawfish industry as agricultural labor services be taken expeditiously, with emergency  
7 measures implemented to ensure the timely processing of the H-2A visas and to meet the  
8 labor demands of the 2026 crawfish season.

9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the  
10 President of the United States, the secretary of the United States Department of Labor, the  
11 secretary of the United States Department of Homeland Security, the majority and minority  
12 leaders of the United States Senate, the speaker and minority leader of the United States  
13 House of Representatives, and each member of the Louisiana Congressional Delegation.

---

#### DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

---

HCR 65 Engrossed

2026 Regular Session

Butler

Memorializes the U.S. Congress, the President of the U.S., the U.S. Dept. of Labor, the U.S. Dept. of Homeland Security, and the members of the La. congressional delegation to take all necessary and appropriate actions to reclassify all job duties of the crawfish industry as agricultural labor services for purposes of the H-2A Temporary Agricultural Workers Program.