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The H-1B Lottery: Playing Games with America's Innovation Future



H-1B Lottery is “National Self-Sabotage”

The U.S. Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) announced that it had received a preliminary number of nearly 163,000 applications during the filing period ending on April 7, 2008, for the FY 2009 allotment of H-1B visas.

The **Economist** best described the absurd H-1B lottery system:

“The result [of the H-1B lottery] is that hundreds of thousands of highly qualified people – entrepreneurs who want to start companies, doctors who want to save lives, scientists who want to explore the frontiers of knowledge – are kept waiting on the spin of a roulette wheel and then, more often than not, denied the chance to work in the United States. This is a policy of national self-sabotage.” – April 10, 2008

The H-1B visa and EB green card systems must be reformed this year.

To play the H-1B lottery and to learn more about highly educated immigration, visit www.competeamerica.org.

Compete America (www.competeamerica.org) is a coalition of corporations, educators, research institutions and trade associations concerned about legal, employment-based immigration and committed to ensuring that the United States has the highly educated workforce necessary to ensure continued innovation, job creation and leadership in a worldwide economy.