

IEEE-USA Public Policy Recommendations
Employment-based Immigration and Offshore Outsourcing Issues
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Employment opportunities for U.S. engineers and scientists continue to be adversely affected by the growing reliance of many employers on temporary work visa programs and by the transfer of high wage, high value-added jobs to lower cost overseas locations. We also believe that these practices pose a serious long-term challenge to the nation's leadership in technology and innovation, its economic prosperity and living standards and its military and homeland security.

IEEE-USA urges U.S. Senators and Representatives to pay careful attention to the impact of such practices on the economy and employment in their states, Congressional districts and home communities. And to help ameliorate the adverse affects of these practices, we recommend that Members of the 109th Congress:

- Support the enactment of balanced reforms in the nation's permanent, employment-based immigrant admissions system with a view toward reducing America's growing dependence on temporary guest-worker programs.
- Oppose calls for further increases in guest-worker admissions ceilings and/or the creation of new temporary (non-immigrant) admissions programs.

To help displaced workers regain productive employment and enable incumbent workers to develop the knowledge, skills and functional capabilities needed to remain competitive in an increasingly technology-driven global economy, we also urge Congress to

- Support the enactment of legislation to expand eligibility for transitional benefits under the Trade Adjustment Assistance Act to include displaced providers of professional services as well as dislocated manufacturing sector workers.

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