

Form G-325A-016 Revision - Responses to 60-day FRN Public Comments

Public Comments (regulations.gov): [USCIS-2005-0024](#)

60-day FRN Citation (federalregister.gov): [90 FR 22752](#) (Correction: [90 FR 23947](#))

Publish Dates: May 29, 2025 – July 28, 2025

Comment ID	Comment Topic	Comment Summary	USCIS Response
Topic 1. Removal of Special Immigrant Juvenile Deferred Action (DA)			
0084 0085 0086 0087 0088 0089 0090 0091 0092 0093 0094 0095 0096 0097 0098 0099 0100 0101 0102 0103 0104 0106 0107 0108 0109 0111 0112 0113		<p>These commenters collectively express strong opposition to the removal of deferred action for Special Immigrant Juveniles (SIJ DA) and related policy changes. Below is a summary of the key points raised:</p> <p>1. Contradiction of Congressional Intent and Humanitarian Purpose</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protection for Vulnerable Children: SIJS was created to protect children who have been abused, neglected, or abandoned. The removal of SIJ DA undermines this purpose, leaving these children vulnerable to deportation and exploitation. • Legislative Intent: Congress intended SIJS to provide stability and a pathway to lawful permanent residency. The removal of deferred action contradicts this intent. <p>2. Risks of Deportation and Exploitation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased Vulnerability: Without deferred action, SIJS recipients face deportation to unsafe conditions and heightened risks of trafficking and exploitation. • Mental Health Impact: The removal of protections exacerbates trauma and instability for already vulnerable children. <p>3. Importance of Employment Authorization Documents (EADs)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economic Independence: EADs allow SIJS recipients to work lawfully, support themselves, and pursue education or career opportunities. 	<p>Response: USCIS recognizes that deferred action and employment authorization may provide stability and a positive economic impact for Special Immigrant Juveniles (SIJs) who are ineligible to apply for adjustment of status to that of a lawful permanent resident (LPR) solely due to the unavailability of an immigrant visa number. However, because USCIS published updated Policy Manual content eliminating categorical consideration of deferred action (and related employment authorization) for aliens classified as SIJs who are ineligible to apply for adjustment of status due to immigrant visa unavailability, collecting information related to SIJ DA no longer has practical utility and does not provide a public benefit. Therefore, USCIS is removing questions specific to SIJ DA from Form G-325A in accordance with the PRA. Comments addressing the rescission of SIJ DA are outside the scope of this revision of Form G-325A. Additionally, Form G-325A may still be used by SIJs to request deferred action under another filing type, such as medical or humanitarian, or on an individual basis.</p>

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<p>0115 0116 0117 0118 0119 0120 0121 0122 0123 0125 0126 0127 0128 0129 0130 0131 0132</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Access to Services: EADs enable access to healthcare, housing, and other essential services, fostering social and economic integration. <p>4. Lack of Justification: USCIS has not provided a substantive explanation for the removal of SIJ DA, raising concerns about the rationale behind the decision.</p> <p>5. Broader Implications for Families and Communities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Harm to Families: The removal of SIJ DA jeopardizes the safety and stability of children and their families.• Economic and Social Contributions: SIJS youth contribute to the U.S. economy and society. Denying them work authorization hinders their ability to thrive and give back. <p>6. Call for Reinstatement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Restore Deferred Action: Commenters urge USCIS to reinstate the SIJ Deferred Action Policy and maintain Form G-325A in its previous form.• Address the Visa Backlog: Resolving the backlog would ensure timely access to permanent residency and reduce reliance on deferred action. <p>7. Real-World Impact on SIJS Youth</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Personal Accounts: SIJS recipients describe fear, loss of opportunities, and feelings of betrayal due to the policy change.	
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Success Stories: Deferred action has enabled SIJS youth to pursue education, careers, and stability, highlighting its transformative impact. <p>8. Impact on Immigration Courts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased Backlogs: Without deferred action, immigration cases for SIJS youth will remain on dockets, worsening court delays. • Judicial Economy: Deferred action has historically allowed judges to close or terminate cases, saving resources. <p>Conclusion: The removal of SIJ DA is criticized as a harmful policy shift that undermines the humanitarian goals of the SIJS program, exposes vulnerable youth to significant risks, and contradicts Congressional intent. Commenters call on USCIS to reverse these changes, reinstate protections, and uphold the promise of safety and stability for SIJS youth.</p>	
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Topic 2. Removal of Labor Investigations Based DA

<p>0110 0121 0124 0126</p>	<p>The comments provided express strong opposition to the removal of Labor Investigation-Based Deferred Action (LIB DA) as a filing type on Form G-325A and related policy changes. Below is a summary of the key points raised:</p> <p>1. Importance of LIB DA for Worker Protections</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protection from Retaliation: LIB DA allows immigrant workers to safely report workplace abuses, such as wage theft, unsafe conditions, and harassment, without fear of immigration-related retaliation. This protection is critical for holding abusive employers accountable and ensuring fair labor practices. 	<p>Response: USCIS recognizes the importance of labor safety protections; the revision to Form G-325A removing the questions relating to Labor Investigation-Based Deferred Action (LIB DA) does not prohibit aliens from reporting labor violations or assisting other investigating agencies.</p> <p>In accordance with the PRA, USCIS is revising Form G-325A to reflect the rescission of the LIB DA policy by DHS, because collecting information related to LIB DA no longer has practical utility and does not provide public benefit. Additionally, Form G-325A may still be used by aliens to request deferred action under another filing type, such as medical or humanitarian, or on an individual basis.</p>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Empowerment of Vulnerable Workers: LIB DA enables workers, especially those on visas tied to their employers (e.g., H-2A and H-2B workers), to leave abusive workplaces and seek lawful employment elsewhere. This reduces their vulnerability to exploitation and trafficking.• Support for Labor Investigations: By protecting workers who cooperate with labor investigations, LIB DA strengthens the enforcement of labor laws and helps agencies like the Department of Labor (DOL) and Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) hold abusive employers accountable. <p>2. Impact on Labor Law Enforcement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Chilling Effect on Reporting: Without LIB DA, workers without immigration status or those dependent on employer-sponsored visas may be too afraid to report labor violations, undermining the enforcement of wage, safety, and anti-discrimination laws.• Weakened Investigations: The removal of LIB DA hampers the ability of labor agencies to investigate and prosecute workplace violations, as fewer workers will come forward to participate in investigations.• Unfair Competition: Employers who violate labor laws gain an unfair advantage over law-abiding businesses, driving down wages and workplace standards for all workers. <p>3. Broader Implications for Workers and Communities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Increased Vulnerability to Trafficking: LIB DA protections help disrupt cycles of labor trafficking by providing stability and work authorization to victims. Without these protections, workers are at greater risk of re-trafficking and exploitation.	<p>Comments addressing the rescission of LIB DA are outside the scope of this revision.</p>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Economic Stability: Work authorization through LIB DA allows workers to support themselves and their families, access healthcare, and avoid unsafe or exploitative work environments.• Impact on U.S. Workers: Protecting immigrant workers through LIB DA benefits all workers by improving workplace standards and ensuring fair competition among employers. <p>4. Lack of Justification: USCIS has not provided a clear rationale for the removal of LIB DA, creating confusion among advocates, workers, and labor agencies.</p> <p>5. Support for Labor Agencies: LIB DA has been instrumental in enabling labor agencies to investigate and address systemic workplace violations, benefiting both immigrant and U.S.-born workers.</p> <p>6. Call for Reinstatement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Restore LIB DA: Commenters urge USCIS to reinstate LIB DA as a filing type on Form G-325A and maintain the protections it provides for vulnerable workers.• Support for Labor Investigations: Retaining LIB DA aligns with the goals of labor agencies and ensures that workers can safely report abuses and cooperate with investigations. <p>Conclusion: The removal of LIB DA is widely criticized as a harmful policy shift that undermines worker protections, weakens labor law enforcement, and exposes vulnerable workers to exploitation and trafficking. Commenters call on USCIS to reverse these changes, reinstate LIB DA, and uphold the protections necessary for fair and safe workplaces.</p>	
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Topic 3. Removal of Statelessness		
0083 0105 0111 0121 0126	<p>The comments provided express strong opposition to the removal of Statelessness as a filing type for deferred action on Form G-325A and related policy changes. Below is a summary of the key points raised:</p> <p>1. Importance of Deferred Action for Stateless Individuals</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Humanitarian Protection: Stateless individuals lack nationality and are not recognized as citizens by any country. Deferred action provides temporary protection from deportation, work authorization, and access to essential services, offering a lifeline to this vulnerable population.• Reliance on Existing Policies: Stateless individuals relied on the 2023 USCIS guidance, which allowed them to apply for deferred action. Many provided biometrics and extensive personal information to the government in good faith, only to have this pathway removed without warning.• Addressing Statelessness: Deferred action helps mitigate the challenges faced by stateless individuals, including limited employment prospects, barriers to travel, difficulty obtaining identification, and psychological stress. It also allows them to contribute to U.S. society through work, family ties, and community engagement. <p>2. Impact of Removing Statelessness from Form G-325A</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Increased Vulnerability: Stateless individuals now face heightened risks of detention, deportation, and further marginalization. Without deferred action, they are left without any temporary relief or legal pathway to stability.• Disruption of Lives: Stateless individuals who relied on deferred action to terminate immigration proceedings or obtain work	<p>Response: USCIS recognizes concerns about statelessness humanitarian protections. Stateless aliens may be eligible for other USCIS humanitarian benefits and may still use Form G-325A to request deferred action under another filing type, such as medical or humanitarian, or on an individual basis.</p> <p>The removal of the “statelessness” filing type from Form G-325A aligns with the rescission of USCIS’s statelessness policy. Because collecting information related to DA for statelessness no longer has practical utility and does not provide public benefit, USCIS is removing questions specific to stateless aliens from Form G-325A in accordance with the PRA. Comments addressing the rescission of the statelessness policy are outside the scope of this revision.</p>

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	<p>authorization are now left in limbo, unable to pursue relief or support themselves.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Contradiction of Humanitarian Principles: Removing statelessness as a basis for deferred action contradicts the spirit of humanitarian protection and efficient use of government resources, as many stateless individuals cannot be deported due to the lack of a receiving country. <p>3. Broader Implications for Stateless Individuals and Communities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Economic and Social Contributions: Stateless individuals often contribute to U.S. society through work, education, and community involvement. Deferred action enables them to continue these contributions while addressing their immediate needs.• Encouraging Visibility: Allowing stateless individuals to apply for deferred action incentivizes them to come forward and engage with the government, fostering trust and transparency. <p>4. Lack of Justification: USCIS has not provided a clear rationale for removing Statelessness as a filing type, creating confusion and instability for affected individuals.</p> <p>5. Call for Reinstatement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Restore Statelessness as a Filing Type: Commenters urge USCIS to reinstate Statelessness as a basis for deferred action on Form G-325A and process qualified applications promptly. <p>Conclusion: The removal of Statelessness as a filing type for deferred action is widely criticized as a harmful policy shift that undermines humanitarian protections, exposes stateless individuals to significant risks, and contradicts prior USCIS guidance. Commenters call on USCIS</p>	
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	to reverse these changes, reinstate Statelessness as a basis for deferred action, and uphold the commitment to protecting some of the most vulnerable members of society.	
Topic 4. Removal of Concurrent Employment Authorization Request		
0077 0089 0126	<p>The comments provided express strong opposition to the removal of the ability to request concurrent filing for Employment Authorization Documents (EADs) and related changes. Below is a summary of the key points raised:</p> <p>1. Importance of Concurrent Filing for EADs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Protection for Vulnerable Populations: The ability to request EADs concurrently with other forms, such as Form I-360 and Form G-325A, is crucial for vulnerable individuals, including those with Special Immigrant Juvenile Status (SIJS) and those involved in labor investigations. This allows them to secure work authorization while awaiting permanent residency.• Economic Independence: EADs provide individuals with the means to work lawfully, support themselves, and avoid exploitation. The removal of concurrent filing would hinder access to these essential documents, leaving individuals in precarious situations. <p>2. Risks of Delays and Increased Vulnerability</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Extended Processing Times: The comments highlight significant delays in processing applications, which lead to uncertainty and frustration for applicants. The inability to file related forms concurrently exacerbates these delays.• Increased Risk of Exploitation: Without timely access to EADs, vulnerable individuals may be forced into unsafe or exploitative	<p>Response: This update to Form G-325A only removes the ability to request employment authorization using Form G-325A when submitting a request for deferred action. Aliens granted deferred action may generally apply for a discretionary grant of employment authorization under 8 CFR 274a.12(c)(14). Therefore, aliens eligible for employment authorization may seek this benefit by filing Form I-765, Application for Employment Authorization.</p> <p>In addition, the purpose of the PRA is to ensure the greatest possible public benefit from and maximize the utility of information created, collected, maintained, used, shared, and disseminated by or for the Federal Government, while also seeking to improve the quality and use of Federal information to strengthen decision-making, accountability, and openness in Government and society. These changes to the Form G-325A ensure that all required information is submitted with each immigration benefit request, as included on each information collection, and that the full screening and vetting process associated with each intended benefit request is completed in the course of the particular immigration benefit being requested.</p>

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	<p>work environments, increasing their risk of labor trafficking and other forms of exploitation.</p> <p>3. Unnecessary Information Requests: Commenters noted that the proposed revisions lead to overly broad or redundant information requests that complicate the application process and create confusion for applicants.</p> <p>4. Recommendations: Allow concurrent filing to enable applicants to file related forms simultaneously to expedite the process and reduce unnecessary waiting periods.</p> <p>Conclusion: The removal of the ability to request concurrent filing for EADs is criticized as a harmful policy shift that undermines protections for vulnerable individuals, increases their risk of exploitation, and complicates the application process. Commenters call for reinstating concurrent filing and ensuring timely access to work authorization for those in need.</p>	
<p>Topic 5. Compliance with the PRA</p>		
<p>0084 0085 0086 0087 0090 0091 0092 0093 0096 0099 0100 0101 0102</p>	<p>The commenters collectively state that USCIS violated the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) in its proposed revisions to Form G-325A and the termination of deferred action policies. Key points include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Failure to Follow PRA Procedures: USCIS implemented changes to Form G-325A and effectively terminated deferred action policies, such as the SIJS Deferred Action Policy, without adhering to the PRA's requirements. These include a 60-day public comment period, agency review of comments, and an additional 30-day comment period before enacting changes. Critics note that USCIS began denying deferred action as early as April 2025, weeks before formally announcing the changes 	<p>Response: The revision of this information collection is going through the normal PRA clearance procedures in accordance with the PRA and 5 CFR part 1320, which includes a 60-day public comment period in the <i>Federal Register</i> and a subsequent 30-day comment period in the <i>Federal Register</i> prior to submission for OMB approval. USCIS decreased the estimated hour burden per response by 5 minutes based on the proposed changes. The associated burden with filing a separate information collection, such as filing the I-765, Application for Employment Authorization, is captured within that OMB controlled information collection.</p> <p>See Topic 4. Removal of Concurrent Employment Authorization Request for comments related to this.</p>

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<p>0104 0108 0111 0116 0117 0118 0119 0120 0122 0124 0127 0128 0129 0130 0131 0132</p>	<p>on June 6, 2025, and after publishing the proposed revisions on May 29, 2025.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">Lack of Transparency: The sequence of events deprived the public of a meaningful opportunity to review and comment on the changes before they were implemented. Commenters argue that this lack of transparency undermines the PRA’s purpose of ensuring public participation in federal decision-making.Increased Burden on the Public: The proposed changes to Form G-325A contradict the PRA’s goal of reducing administrative burdens. By eliminating deferred action categories from the form, such as SIJS, statelessness, and DALE, applicants now face additional steps, such as filing separate forms for employment authorization, increasing the paperwork burden rather than reducing it.Contradiction of PRA’s Purpose: The PRA is intended to minimize burdens and maximize public benefit. Commenters state that the revisions to Form G-325A and the termination of deferred action policies impose significant burdens on vulnerable populations, such as SIJS recipients, stateless individuals, and immigrant workers, without clear justification or benefit.No Justification Provided: USCIS offered no substantive explanation for the changes, citing only compliance with the PRA. Commenters contend that this rationale is insufficient and fails to address the significant impacts of the changes. <p>Conclusion: The comments state that USCIS’s actions violated the procedural and substantive requirements of the PRA, undermining its purpose of minimizing public burden and ensuring transparency.</p>	<p>USCIS Policy Manual updates generally provide policy guidance to USCIS immigration officers to guide them while performing their duties. USCIS Policy Manual updates are outside of the scope of this revision and do not require public comment under the PRA. The changes to Form G-325A are consistent with discretionary policy updates.</p>
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	Commenters call for the rescission of the proposed changes to Form G-325A and the reinstatement of deferred action policies.	
Topic 6. Support		
0078 0079 0080 0081	These comments expressed support for the proposed revision of this information collection.	Response: USCIS appreciates the positive feedback and comments.
Topic 7. Out of Scope		
0077 0114	These commenters expressed concerns and made recommendations that were out of scope of this proposed revision.	Response: These comments include information that is out of scope for the proposed revision of this information collection.