

**AMENDMENT TO AGRICULTURE AND RURAL
DEVELOPMENT APPROPRIATIONS BILL
OFFERED BY MR. NEWHOUSE OF WASHINGTON**

At the appropriate place in the Committee Report, insert the following:

“Alleviation of H-2A program regulatory burdens. In order to reduce the burden to employers of communicating across multiple agencies with disparate processes and overlapping missions, the Committee directs the Secretary of Agriculture, in consultation with the Secretary of Labor, Director of United States Citizenship and Immigration Services, and Secretary of State, and in cooperation with U.S. Digital Services, to oversee the establishment and operation of a cloud-based, online platform through which agricultural employers will complete the H-2A petition and certification process. Such a platform shall handle employer input of all information required for the processing and adjudication of an H-2A petition and the certification process; provide secure, authenticated, and authorized agency analyst interactions; and provide transparency throughout the process to employers regarding the status of their petitions.”.

