



*Understanding the
Restoring Industry Development in Entertainment (RIDE) Act, S. 1281*

The RIDE Act was first introduced in the U.S Senate in the 118th Congress, and now, re-introduced in the 119th Congress by Senators Thom Tillis, Amy Klobuchar and Tina Smith.

The bill simply expands the eligibility definition for carnival workers under the uncapped, long existing, non-immigrant (P) visa category which currently allows for *circus performers*, athletes, and a variety of other entertainers to travel to the U.S. for a limited time.

This allows employers of such temporary workers an alternative to utilization of the H2B non-immigrant category which is arbitrarily capped thus resulting in significant business uncertainty for mobile entertainment providers.

Most outdoor amusement companies currently utilize the traditional H-2B temporary worker visas to supplement their American workforce. Clarifying that mobile entertainment industry support staff may instead utilize the P-visa will reduce demand on the H-2B program by approximately 10,000 visas, making more visas available to other H-2B employers to address systemic worker shortages.

- The bill continues to have the U.S. Department of Labor certify that sufficient American workers are not available and that wages and working conditions for American workers would not be negatively affected as in the H-2B program which is currently used by the mobile entertainment industry.
- *The revised P-4 category is restricted to providers of services normally affiliated with carnivals or circuses that travel around the United States on a seasonal or temporary basis to provide services to state, county, and local fairs and festivals, or support events sponsored by not-for-profit organizations for fundraising.*
- The bill also requires the Secretaries of Homeland Security and Labor to publish rules after enactment.

We are reaching out to Members of the U.S. Senate to ask them to become co-sponsors of this bipartisan legislation.

There is companion, but not identical, legislation in the U.S House, the Carnivals Are Real Entertainment (CARE) Act, H.R. 2729.