

under section 1602 of this title for which an officer or employee is eligible.

(Added Pub. L. 101-193, title V, §501(a)(1), Nov. 30, 1989, 103 Stat. 1707, §1592; renumbered §1596, Pub. L. 101-510, div. A, title XIV, §1484(a), Nov. 5, 1990, 104 Stat. 1715; amended Pub. L. 104-201, div. A, title XVI, §1633(e)(2), Sept. 23, 1996, 110 Stat. 2752; Pub. L. 106-398, §1 [[div. A], title XI, §1131(b)], Oct. 30, 2000, 114 Stat. 1654, 1654A-317.)

AMENDMENTS

2000—Pub. L. 106-398 substituted “Foreign language proficiency: special pay for proficiency beneficial for intelligence interests” for “Foreign language proficiency: special pay” as section catchline.

1996—Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 104-201 substituted “section 1602” for “section 1604(b)”.

1990—Pub. L. 101-510 renumbered the second section 1592 of this title as this section.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1996 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 104-201 effective Oct. 1, 1996, see section 1635 of Pub. L. 104-201, set out as a note under section 1593 of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE

Pub. L. 101-193, title V, §501(b), Nov. 30, 1989, 103 Stat. 1708, provided that: “Section 1592 [now 1596] of title 10, United States Code, as added by subsection (a), shall take effect on the first day of the first pay period beginning on or after the later of—

“(1) October 1, 1989, or

“(2) the date of the enactment of this Act [Nov. 30, 1989].”

§ 1596a. Foreign language proficiency: special pay for proficiency beneficial for other national security interests

(a) **AUTHORITY.**—The Secretary of Defense may pay special pay under this section to an employee of the Department of Defense who—

(1) has been certified by the Secretary to be proficient in a foreign language identified by the Secretary as being a language in which proficiency by civilian personnel of the Department is necessary because of national security interests;

(2) is assigned duties requiring proficiency in that foreign language; and

(3) is not receiving special pay under section 1596 of this title.

(b) **RATE.**—The rate of special pay for an employee under this section shall be prescribed by the Secretary, but may not exceed five percent of the employee’s rate of basic pay.

(c) **RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER PAY AND ALLOWANCES.**—Special pay under this section is in addition to any other pay or allowances to which the employee is entitled.

(d) **REGULATIONS.**—The Secretary of Defense shall prescribe regulations to carry out this section.

(Added Pub. L. 106-398, §1 [[div. A], title XI, §1131(a)], Oct. 30, 2000, 114 Stat. 1654, 1654A-317; amended Pub. L. 108-375, div. A, title XI, §1102(a), Oct. 28, 2004, 118 Stat. 2072.)

AMENDMENTS

2004—Subsec. (a)(2). Pub. L. 108-375 struck out “during a contingency operation supported by the armed forces” after “foreign language”.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2004 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 108-375, div. A, title XI, §1102(b), Oct. 28, 2004, 118 Stat. 2072, provided that: “The amendment by this

section [amending this section] shall take effect on the first day of the first month that begins after the date of the enactment of this Act [Oct. 28, 2004].”

§ 1596b. Foreign language proficiency: National Foreign Language Skills Registry

(a) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—(1) The Secretary of Defense may establish and maintain a registry of persons who—

(A) have proficiency in one or more critical foreign languages;

(B) are willing to provide linguistic services to the United States in the interests of national security during war or a national emergency; and

(C) meet the eligibility requirements of subsection (b).

(2) The registry shall be known as the “National Foreign Language Skills Registry” (in this section referred to as the “Registry”).

(b) **ELIGIBLE PERSONS.**—To be eligible for listing on the Registry, a person—

(1) must be—

(A) a national of the United States (as defined in section 101(a)(22) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(22))); or

(B) an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence (as defined in section 101(a)(20) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(20)));

(2) shall express willingness, in a form and manner prescribed by the Secretary—

(A) to provide linguistic services for a foreign language as described in subsection (a); and

(B) to be listed on the Registry; and

(3) shall meet such language proficiency and other selection criteria as may be prescribed by the Secretary.

(c) **REGISTERED INFORMATION.**—The Registry shall consist of the following:

(1) The names of eligible persons selected by the Secretary for listing on the Registry.

(2) Such other information on such persons as the Secretary determines pertinent to the use of such persons to provide linguistic services as described in subsection (a).

(d) **PROTECTION OF PRIVACY.**—The Secretary may withhold from public disclosure the information maintained in the Registry in accordance with section 552a of title 5.

(e) **DESIGNATION OF CRITICAL FOREIGN LANGUAGES.**—The Secretary shall designate those languages that are critical foreign languages for the purposes of this section. The Secretary shall make such a designation for any foreign language for which there is a shortage of experts in translation or interpretation available to meet requirements of the Secretary or of the head of any other department or agency of the United States for translation or interpretation in the national security interests of the United States.

(f) **LINGUISTIC SERVICES DEFINED.**—In this section, the term “linguistic services” means translation or interpretation of communication in a foreign language.

(Added Pub. L. 107-314, div. A, title X, §1064(a)(1), Dec. 2, 2002, 116 Stat. 2653.)