

“(1) SEPARATION OF LOWEST RANKED FOREIGN SERVICE MEMBERS.—Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act [Oct. 21, 1998], the Secretary of State shall develop and implement procedures to identify, and recommend for separation, any member of the Foreign Service ranked by promotion boards of the Department of State in the bottom 5 percent of his or her class for 2 or more of the 5 years preceding the date of enactment of this Act (in this subsection referred to as the ‘years of lowest ranking’) if the rating official for such member was not the same individual for any two of the years of lowest ranking.

“(2) SPECIAL INTERNAL REVIEWS.—In any case where the member was evaluated by the same rating official in any 2 of the years of lowest ranking, an internal review of the member’s file shall be conducted to determine whether the member should be considered for action leading to separation.

“(3) PROCEDURES.—The Secretary of State shall develop procedures for the internal reviews required under paragraph (2).”

DEFINITION OF “REASONABLE CAUSE”

Pub. L. 101-167, title V, § 586(c), Nov. 21, 1989, 103 Stat. 1252, provided that for purposes of amendments by section 586(a) and (b) of Pub. L. 101-167, which amended this section and section 4136 of this title, reasonable cause to believe that a member has committed a crime for which a sentence of imprisonment may be imposed was to be defined as a member of the Service having been convicted of, and sentence of imprisonment having been imposed for, a job-related crime, prior to repeal by Pub. L. 102-138, title I, § 143(c), Oct. 28, 1991, 105 Stat. 668.

§ 4010a. Reductions in force

(a) Authorization and regulations

The Secretary may conduct reductions in force and shall prescribe regulations for the separation of members of the Service holding a career or career candidate appointment under subchapter III of this chapter, under such reductions in force which give due effect to the following:

- (1) Organizational changes.
- (2) Documented employee knowledge, skills, or competencies.
- (3) Tenure of employment.
- (4) Documented employee performance.
- (5) Military preference, subject to section 3501(a)(3) of title 5.

(b) Applicability of retirement benefits

The provisions of section 4009 of this title shall be applicable to any member of the Service holding a career or career candidate appointment under subchapter III of this chapter, who is separated under the provisions of this section.

(c) Grievance procedure

An employee against whom action is taken under this section may elect either to file a grievance under subchapter XI of this chapter or to appeal to the Merit Systems Protection Board under procedures prescribed by the Board. Grievances under subchapter XI of this chapter shall be limited to cases of reprisal, interference in the conduct of an employee’s official duties, or similarly inappropriate use of the authority of this section.

(Pub. L. 96-465, title I, § 611, as added Pub. L. 103-236, title I, § 181(a)(2), Apr. 30, 1994, 108 Stat. 417; amended Pub. L. 103-415, § 1(ii), Oct. 25, 1994, 108 Stat. 4303.)

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 611 of Pub. L. 96-465 was renumbered section 612 and is classified to section 4011 of this title.

AMENDMENTS

1994—Pub. L. 103-415 made technical amendment relating to style of section catchline.

EMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE REFERRAL SYSTEM FOR CERTAIN MEMBERS OF FOREIGN SERVICE

Pub. L. 103-236, title I, § 179, Apr. 30, 1994, 108 Stat. 415, as amended by Pub. L. 103-415, § 1(g), Oct. 25, 1994, 108 Stat. 4300, provided that:

“(a) REFERRAL SYSTEM.—Certain members of the Foreign Service (as described in subsection (b)), may participate in the Office of Personnel Management’s Interagency Placement programs or any successor program. Such members of the Foreign Service shall be treated in the same manner as employees participating in such a program as of the effective date of this Act [Apr. 30, 1994].

“(b) CERTAIN MEMBERS OF THE FOREIGN SERVICE.—For purposes of this section, the term ‘members of the Foreign Service’ means any individuals holding career or career candidate appointments under chapter 3 of the Foreign Service Act of 1980 [22 U.S.C. 3941 et seq.]”

CONSULTATION WITH DIRECTOR OF OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT PRIOR TO PRESCRIBING REGULATIONS FOR REDUCTIONS IN FORCE

Pub. L. 103-236, title I, § 181(c), Apr. 30, 1994, 108 Stat. 418, as amended by Pub. L. 103-415, § 1(i), Oct. 25, 1994, 108 Stat. 4301, provided that: “The Secretary of State (or in the case of any other agency authorized by law to utilize the Foreign Service personnel system, the head of that agency) shall consult with the Director of the Office of Personnel Management before prescribing regulations for reductions in force under section 611 of the Foreign Service Act of 1980 [22 U.S.C. 4010a] (as added by subsection (a) of this section), and shall publish such regulations.”

§ 4011. Termination of limited appointments

Except as provided in section 4010(a)(2) of this title, the Secretary may terminate at any time the appointment of any member of the Service serving under a limited appointment who is in the Senior Foreign Service, who is assigned to a salary class in the Foreign Service Schedule or who is paid in accordance with section 3967 of this title or is a United States citizen paid under a compensation plan under section 3968 of this title.

(Pub. L. 96-465, title I, § 612, formerly § 611, Oct. 17, 1980, 94 Stat. 2099; renumbered § 612 and amended Pub. L. 103-236, title I, §§ 180(a)(7), 181(a)(1), Apr. 30, 1994, 108 Stat. 416.)

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 612 of Pub. L. 96-465 was renumbered section 613 and is classified to section 4012 of this title.

AMENDMENTS

1994—Pub. L. 103-236, § 180(a)(7), substituted “or who is paid in accordance with section 3967 of this title or is a United States citizen paid under a compensation plan under section 3968 of this title.” for “, or who is a family member of a Government employee serving under a local compensation plan established under section 3968 of this title.”

§ 4012. Termination of appointments of consular agents and foreign national employees

(a) The Secretary of State may terminate at any time the appointment of any consular agent