

**(b) Family nexus as affirmative hiring factor**

The fact that an applicant for employment in a position referred to in subsection (a) is a family member of a Government employee assigned abroad shall be considered an affirmative factor in employing such person.

**(c) Compensation of family and non-family member employees**

(1) Non-family members employed under this section for service at their post of residence shall be paid in accordance with local compensation plans established under section 3968 of this title.

(2) Family members employed under this section shall be paid in accordance with the Foreign Service Schedule or the salary rates established under section 3967 of this title.

(3) In exceptional circumstances, non-family members may be paid in accordance with the Foreign Service Schedule or the salary rates established under section 3967 of this title, if the Secretary determines that the national interest would be served by such payments.

**(d) Non-family member employees ineligible for certain benefits**

Nonfamily member United States citizens employed under this section shall not be eligible by reason of such employment for benefits under subchapter VIII of this chapter, or under chapters<sup>1</sup> 83 or 84 of title 5.

(Pub. L. 96-465, title I, § 311, Oct. 17, 1980, 94 Stat. 2087; Pub. L. 103-236, title I, § 180(a)(2), Apr. 30, 1994, 108 Stat. 415; Pub. L. 103-415, § 1(h)(1), Oct. 25, 1994, 108 Stat. 4300.)

## AMENDMENTS

1994—Pub. L. 103-415 substituted “United States citizens hired abroad” for “Employment of family members of Government employees” as section catchline and inserted “by reason of such employment” after “eligible” in subsec. (d).

Pub. L. 103-236 amended section generally. Prior to amendment, section read as follows:

“(a) The Secretary, when employing individuals abroad in positions to which career members of the Service are not customarily assigned (including, when continuity over a long term is not a significant consideration, vacant positions normally filled by foreign national employees), shall give equal consideration to employing available qualified family members of members of the Service or of other Government employees assigned abroad. Family members so employed shall serve under renewable limited appointments in the Service and may be paid either in accordance with the Foreign Service Schedule or a local compensation plan established under section 3968 of this title.

“(b) Employment of family members in accordance with this section may not be used to avoid fulfilling the need for full-time career positions.”

**§ 3952. Diplomatic and consular missions****(a) Recommendations by Secretary of State; appointment by President; vice consul; performance of official functions under commission**

The Secretary of State may recommend to the President that a member of the Service who is a citizen of the United States be commissioned as a diplomatic or consular officer or both. The

President may, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, commission such member of the Service as a diplomatic or consular officer or both. The Secretary of State may commission as a vice consul a member of the Service who is a citizen of the United States. All official functions performed by a diplomatic or consular officer, including a vice consul, shall be performed under such a commission.

**(b) Function of commissioned Service members**

Members of the Service commissioned under this section may, in accordance with their commissions, perform any function which any category of diplomatic officer (other than a chief of mission) or consular officer is authorized by law to perform.

**(c) Limits of consular districts**

The Secretary of State shall define the limits of consular districts.

(Pub. L. 96-465, title I, § 312, Oct. 17, 1980, 94 Stat. 2087.)

## SUBCHAPTER IV—COMPENSATION

**§ 3961. Salaries of chiefs of mission**

(a) Except as provided in section 3942(b) of this title, each chief of mission shall receive a salary, as determined by the President, at one of the annual rates payable for levels II through V of the Executive Schedule under sections 5313 through 5316 of title 5, except that the total compensation, exclusive of danger pay, for any chief of mission shall be subject to the limitation on certain payments under section 5307 of title 5 or the limitation under section 3962(a)(3) of this title, whichever is higher.

(b) The salary of a chief of mission shall commence upon the effective date of appointment to that position. The official services of a chief of mission are not terminated by the appointment of a successor, but shall continue for such additional period, not to exceed 50 days after relinquishment of charge of the mission, as the Secretary of State may determine. During that period, the Secretary of State may require the chief of mission to perform such functions as the Secretary of State deems necessary in the interest of the Government.

(Pub. L. 96-465, title I, § 401, Oct. 17, 1980, 94 Stat. 2087; Pub. L. 100-204, title I, § 177(a), Dec. 22, 1987, 101 Stat. 1362; Pub. L. 102-138, title I, § 142(b), Oct. 28, 1991, 105 Stat. 668; Pub. L. 108-447, div. B, title IV, § 412(c), Dec. 8, 2004, 118 Stat. 2905.)

## AMENDMENTS

2004—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 108-447, which directed the substitution of “shall be subject to the limitation on certain payments under section 5307 of title 5 or the limitation under section 3962(a)(3) of this title, whichever is higher” for “shall not exceed the annual rate of pay payable for level I of such Executive Schedule”, was executed by making the substitution for “shall not exceed the annual rate payable for level I of such Executive Schedule” to reflect the probable intent of Congress.

1991—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 102-138 substituted “Except as provided in section 3942(b) of this title, each” for “Each” and “level I of such” for “level II of such”.

1987—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 100-204 substituted “Each chief” for “Except as provided in section 3942(b) of this

<sup>1</sup> So in original. Probably should be “chapter”.