

EXPEDITED SEPARATION OUT

Pub. L. 105-277, div. G, subdiv. B, title XXIII, §2311(b), Oct. 21, 1998, 112 Stat. 2681-826, provided that:

“(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 or to appeal to the Merit Systems Protection Board under procedures prescribed by the Board. Grievances under subchapter XI 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.)

Editorial Notes

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.

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

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.)

Editorial Notes

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 in light of the criteria and procedures normally followed in the locality in similar circumstances.

(b) The Secretary may terminate at any time the appointment of any foreign national employee in light of the criteria and procedures normally followed in the locality in similar circumstances.

(Pub. L. 96-465, title I, § 613, formerly § 612, Oct. 17, 1980, 94 Stat. 2099; renumbered § 613, Pub. L. 103-236, title I, § 181(a)(1), Apr. 30, 1994, 108 Stat. 416.)

Editorial Notes

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 613 of Pub. L. 96-465 was renumbered section 614 and is classified to section 4013 of this title.

§ 4012a. Foreign national employees separation pay

(a) Establishment

There is established in the Treasury of the United States a fund to provide separation pay for foreign national employees of agencies of the United States Government, other than the Department of Defense.

(b) Funding

There shall be deposited in such account—

(1) all amounts previously obligated for accrued separation pay of foreign national employees of such agencies of the United States Government; and

(2) amounts obligated for fiscal years after 1991 by such agencies for the current and future costs of separation pay of foreign national employees.

(c) Availability

Amounts shall be deposited in the fund annually and are authorized to be available until expended.

(d) Expenditures from fund

Amounts deposited in the fund shall be available for expenditure to make separation payments to foreign national employees in countries in which such pay is legally authorized.

(Pub. L. 102-138, title I, § 151, Oct. 28, 1991, 105 Stat. 672.)

Editorial Notes

CODIFICATION

Section was enacted as part of the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Years 1992 and 1993, and not as part of the Foreign Service Act of 1980 which comprises this chapter.

§ 4013. Department awards

The President shall establish a system of awards to confer appropriate recognition of out-

standing contributions to the Nation by members of the Service or Civil Service. The awards system established under this section shall provide for presentation by the President and by the Secretary of medals or other suitable commendations for performance in the course of or beyond the call of duty which involves distinguished, meritorious service to the Nation, including extraordinary valor in the face of danger to life or health. Distinguished, meritorious service in the promotion of internationally recognized human rights, including the right to freedom of religion, shall serve as a basis for granting awards under this section.

(Pub. L. 96-465, title I, § 614, formerly § 613, Oct. 17, 1980, 94 Stat. 2099; renumbered § 614, Pub. L. 103-236, title I, § 181(a)(1), Apr. 30, 1994, 108 Stat. 416; amended Pub. L. 105-292, title V, § 504(b), Oct. 27, 1998, 112 Stat. 2811; Pub. L. 117-81, div. E, title LIII, § 5308(a), Dec. 27, 2021, 135 Stat. 2362.)

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

2021—Pub. L. 117-81, § 5308(a)(1), amended section catchline generally, substituting “Department awards” for “Foreign Service awards”.

Pub. L. 117-81, § 5308(a)(2), inserted “or Civil Service” after “the Service” before period at end of first sentence.

1998—Pub. L. 105-292 inserted at end “Distinguished, meritorious service in the promotion of internationally recognized human rights, including the right to freedom of religion, shall serve as a basis for granting awards under this section.”

Executive Documents

DELEGATION OF FUNCTIONS

Functions of President under this section delegated to Secretary of State, see section 1 of Ex. Ord. No. 12293, Feb. 23, 1981, 46 F.R. 13969, set out under section 3901 of this title.

THE RICHARD C. HOLBROOKE AWARD FOR DIPLOMACY

Memorandum of President of the United States, Dec. 22, 2010, 77 F.R. 75507, provided:

Memorandum for the Secretary of State

To honor the legacy of one of America’s greatest diplomats and to reaffirm our commitment to diplomacy, I hereby direct you to establish the Richard C. Holbrooke Award for Diplomacy, to be awarded annually. You are authorized to take all necessary steps to establish an appropriate award program under the auspices of your department to recognize distinguished Americans who have made especially meritorious contributions to diplomacy.

Sixty days prior to presenting the award, you shall present to me a list of nominees, from which I will select up to five individuals or groups of individuals to receive this award. In preparing your list of nominees, you may consider the recommendations of appropriate individuals and groups, coordinate your nominations in consultation with other executive agencies as appropriate, and may include recommendations for posthumous awards.

You are authorized and directed to publish this memorandum in the Federal Register.

BARACK OBAMA.

SUBCHAPTER VII—CAREER DEVELOPMENT, TRAINING, AND ORIENTATION

§ 4021. Institution for training

(a) Institution or center for training

The Secretary of State shall maintain and operate an institution or center for training (here-