

117TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 7787

To allow Federal personnel stationed abroad to return to the United States with dogs, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 16, 2022

Mr. PHILLIPS (for himself, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. LEVIN of Michigan, Mr. CARSON, Mr. O'HALLERAN, Ms. TITUS, Ms. SALAZAR, Ms. ADAMS, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. COHEN, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, and Mr. SOTO) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Transportation and Infrastructure, and Foreign Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To allow Federal personnel stationed abroad to return to the United States with dogs, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Helping Employees
5 Navigate Rabies Regulations from over Yonder” or the
6 “HENRY Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. EXEMPTION FOR FEDERAL PERSONNEL ENTERING**
2 **THE UNITED STATES WITH DOGS.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Director of the Centers for
4 Disease Control and Prevention shall ensure that the re-
5 quirements of the Centers relating to the importation of
6 dogs are not overly burdensome with respect to—

7 (1) an officer or employee of the United States
8 Government (including a member of the uniformed
9 services) stationed or assigned, including for tem-
10 porary duty, outside of the United States or its ter-
11 ritories or possessions; or

12 (2) any dependent of such an officer or em-
13 ployee.

14 (b) LIMITATION ON TEMPORARY SUSPENSION.—

15 (1) IN GENERAL.—The temporary suspension
16 on the importation of dogs announced in the notice
17 titled “Temporary Suspension of Dogs Entering the
18 United States From High-Risk Rabies Countries”
19 published by the Centers for Disease Control and
20 Prevention on June 16, 2021 (86 Fed. Reg. 32041
21 et seq.) (and any successor or substantially similar
22 restriction of the Centers), shall not apply with re-
23 spect to the importation of up to three dogs per
24 entry into the United States by persons described in
25 paragraph (1) or (2) of subsection (a).

1 (2) WAIVER.—At the request of a person de-
2 scribed in paragraph (1) or (2) of subsection (a), the
3 Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Pre-
4 vention may waive the limitation of three dogs speci-
5 fied in paragraph (1) so as to allow the importation
6 by such person of up to a number of dogs per entry
7 specified in such waiver.

8 (c) APPLICABILITY TO TRAVEL IN PERSONAL CAPAC-
9 ITY.—This section shall apply with respect to an officer,
10 employee, or dependent regardless of whether the officer,
11 employee, or dependent is traveling in an official or per-
12 sonal capacity.

13 (d) INTERIM REGULATIONS.—Section 71.51 of title
14 42, Code of Federal Regulations (as in effect on the day
15 before June 16, 2021) (other than section 71.51(e)) is
16 deemed to apply with respect to the importation of dogs
17 by persons described in paragraph (1) or (2) of subsection
18 (a), until and unless the Director of the Centers for Dis-
19 ease Control and Prevention establishes different require-
20 ments consistent with subsection (a).

21 (e) CONFORMING CHANGES.—Not later than 30 days
22 after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director of
23 the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention shall re-
24 vise the temporary suspension on the importation of dogs
25 announced in the notice titled “Temporary Suspension of

1 Dogs Entering the United States From High-Risk Rabies
2 Countries” published by the Centers on June 16, 2021
3 (86 Fed. Reg. 32041 et seq.), and take such other steps
4 as may be necessary, to implement this subsection.

5 (f) APPLICABILITY.—Irrespective of the date by
6 which the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and
7 Prevention makes the revisions and takes the steps re-
8 quired by subsection (d), this section applies to the impor-
9 tation of dogs beginning on the date of enactment of this
10 Act.

11 **SEC. 3. FLY AMERICA ACT EXCEPTION.**

12 Section 40118 of title 49, United States Code, is
13 amended by adding at the end the following:

14 “(h) CERTAIN TRANSPORTATION OF DOMESTIC ANI-
15 MALS.—

16 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding sub-
17 sections (a) and (c), an appropriation to any depart-
18 ment, agency, or instrumentality of the United
19 States Government may be used to pay for the
20 transportation of an officer, employee, or member of
21 the uniformed services of any such department,
22 agency, or instrumentality, a dependent of the offi-
23 cer, employee, or member, and in-cabin or accom-
24 panying checked baggage, by a foreign air carrier
25 when—

1 “(A)(i) the transportation is from a place
2 outside the United States to a place in the
3 United States;

4 “(ii) the transportation is from a place in
5 the United States to a place outside the United
6 States; or

7 “(iii) the transportation is from a place
8 outside the United States to another place out-
9 side the United States; and

10 “(B) no air carrier holding a certificate
11 under section 41102 is willing and able to
12 transport up to three domestic animals accom-
13 panying such officer, employee, member, or de-
14 pendent.

15 “(2) LIMITATION.—An amount paid pursuant
16 to paragraph (1) for transportation by a foreign car-
17 rier may not be greater than the amount that would
18 otherwise have been paid had the transportation
19 been on an air carrier holding a certificate under
20 section 41102 had that carrier been willing and able
21 to provide such transportation. If the amount that
22 would otherwise have been paid to such an air car-
23 rier is less than the cost of transportation on the ap-
24 plicable foreign carrier, the officer, employee, or
25 member may pay the difference of such amount.

1 “(3) DEFINITION.—In this subsection, the term
2 ‘domestic animal’ means a dog or a cat.”.

3 **SEC. 4. AUTHORIZATIONS RELATING TO VETERINARY CARE**
4 **OVERSEAS.**

5 (a) DEPARTMENT OF STATE.—The Secretary of
6 State, in consultation with the Director of the Centers for
7 Disease Control and Prevention, is authorized, in order
8 to facilitate the importation to the United States, in ac-
9 cordance with section 2 and the amendment made by sec-
10 tion 3, of domestic animals by officers and employees of
11 the United States Government, and their dependents,
12 under the authority of any Chief of Mission from a coun-
13 try classified by the Centers for Disease Control and Pre-
14 vention as high risk for dog rabies—

15 (1) to enter into contracts with individuals who
16 are licensed in the United States for the provision
17 of personal services (as described in section 104 of
18 part 37 of title 48, Code of Federal Regulations and
19 including pursuant to section 904 of the Foreign
20 Service Act of 1980 (22 U.S.C. 4084)) to provide
21 veterinary care overseas for domestic animals of
22 such officers, employees, and dependents, except
23 that—

24 (A) such individuals may not be deemed
25 officers or employees of the United States for

1 the purpose of any law administered by the Of-
2 fice of Personnel Management; and

3 (B) such individuals shall be expected to be
4 available to travel to any overseas post as nec-
5 essary to provide veterinary care and shall not
6 be hired for or detailed exclusively to any spe-
7 cific overseas post; and

8 (2) to take such steps as may be necessary to
9 provide medical services or related support with re-
10 spect to the domestic animals of such officers, em-
11 ployees, and dependents, including in particular the
12 purchase, procurement, delivery, and administration
13 of rabies vaccines licensed by the Secretary of Agri-
14 culture, on a reimbursable basis to the extent fea-
15 sible, except that such reimbursement may not ex-
16 ceed the amount that would be charged for equiva-
17 lent veterinarian services if received in the United
18 States.

19 (b) USE OF EXISTING MECHANISMS.—To the max-
20 imum extent practicable, the Secretary of State shall use
21 existing mechanisms, including for the purchase, procure-
22 ment, delivery, and administration of COVID–19 vaccines
23 to officers and employees of the United States Govern-
24 ment and their dependents under the authority of any
25 Chief of Mission abroad, to carry out the authorities pro-

1 vided by subsection (a), especially with respect to the pur-
2 chase, procurement, delivery, and administration of rabies
3 vaccines licensed by the Secretary of Agriculture.

4 (c) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term “domestic
5 animal” means a dog or a cat.

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