

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 9730

To expedite the rehiring of certain former career members of the Foreign Service, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 16, 2026

Mr. BEYER (for himself, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. WALKINSHAW, Ms. TITUS, Mr. OLSZEWSKI, and Ms. NORTON) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

A BILL

To expedite the rehiring of certain former career members of the Foreign Service, 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 “Foreign Service Test-
5 Free Reentry Act of 2026”.

6 **SEC. 2. EXPEDITED REHIRING OF FORMER CAREER MEM-**
7 **BERS.**

8 Section 308 of the Foreign Service Act of 1980 (22
9 U.S.C. 3948) is amended by adding at the end the fol-
10 lowing new subsection:

1 “(c)(1) With respect to any former career member
2 of the Service involuntarily separated or retired as part
3 of a reduction in force or other expedited retirement proc-
4 ess during the period beginning January 20, 2025, and
5 ending January 31, 2030, who was serving in good stand-
6 ing as of the date of such separation or retirement, the
7 Secretary may reappoint such former career member with-
8 out requiring any written or oral examination or other
9 threshold qualification described in section 301.

10 “(2) For purposes of this subsection—

11 “(A) the term ‘serving in good standing’, with
12 respect to an individual who was separated or re-
13 tired, means that the individual did not receive any
14 low rankings within the 5 years prior to their sepa-
15 ration or retirement date to the extent that such re-
16 view with respect to such individual is clearly docu-
17 mented; and

18 “(B) the authority provided under paragraph
19 (1) may not be exercised with respect to any former
20 career service member that was not involuntarily
21 separated or retired—

22 “(i) during the period described in that
23 paragraph; and

- 1 “(ii) as part of a reduction in force or
2 other expedited retirement process.”.

