

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 5009

To ensure that any individual serving as Director of National Intelligence in an acting capacity possesses the qualifications required of the Director of National Intelligence to have extensive national security expertise, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 16, 2026

Ms. SLOTKIN introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Select Committee on Intelligence

A BILL

To ensure that any individual serving as Director of National Intelligence in an acting capacity possesses the qualifications required of the Director of National Intelligence to have extensive national security expertise, 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 “Minimum Experience
5 Requirements for Intelligence Transition Act of 2026” or
6 the “MERIT Act of 2026”.

1 **SEC. 2. EXPERTISE OF ACTING DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL IN-**
2 **TELLIGENCE.**

3 Section 102(a) of the National Security Act of 1947
4 (50 U.S.C. 3023(a)) is amended, in the second sentence,
5 by inserting “or serving as Director of National Intel-
6 ligence in an acting capacity, including any official per-
7 forming the duties of such position,” before “shall have”.

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