

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1387

To enable the Director of National Intelligence to transfer full-time equivalent positions to elements of the intelligence community to replace employees who are temporarily absent to participate in foreign language training, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 25, 2009

Mr. WYDEN (for himself and Mr. CHAMBLISS) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Select Committee on Intelligence

A BILL

To enable the Director of National Intelligence to transfer full-time equivalent positions to elements of the intelligence community to replace employees who are temporarily absent to participate in foreign language training, 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 “Intelligence Critical
5 Language Training Improvement Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress makes the following findings:

1 (1) In 2009, eight years after the terrorist at-
2 tacks of September 11, 2001, the intelligence com-
3 munity continues to lack an adequate supply of per-
4 sonnel trained in critical foreign languages.

5 (2) A number of elements of the intelligence
6 community are attempting to address that lack of
7 supply by recruiting applicants who can speak, read,
8 and understand critical foreign languages.

9 (3) Leaders in the intelligence community have
10 recognized that improved recruiting practices are
11 only a partial solution and that improved language
12 training for current intelligence community employ-
13 ees is also necessary.

14 (4) While language education and instruction
15 provides long-term benefits for both intelligence
16 agencies and individual employees, it has short-term
17 costs for supervisors whose staff are absent due to
18 language training and could provide supervisors with
19 an incentive to resist allowing individual employees
20 to pursue language training.

21 (5) If the head of an element of the intelligence
22 community was able to increase the number of per-
23 sonnel at that element during the period that an em-
24 ployee is participating in language training, that ele-

1 ment would not have to sacrifice short-term prior-
2 ities to address language training needs.

3 (6) The Director of National Intelligence is
4 uniquely situated to evaluate language training
5 needs across the intelligence community and assess
6 whether that training would be enhanced if elements
7 of the intelligence community were given temporary
8 additional personnel authorizations.

9 (7) The intelligence community has a difficult
10 time finding, training, and providing security clear-
11 ances to native foreign language speakers who are
12 able to serve as translators and it would be bene-
13 ficial if all elements of the intelligence community
14 were able to harness the capabilities of these individ-
15 uals.

16 (8) The Director of National Intelligence is
17 uniquely situated to identify translators within the
18 intelligence community and provide for their tem-
19 porary transfer from one element of the intelligence
20 community to another element.

21 **SEC. 3. TEMPORARY PERSONNEL AUTHORIZATIONS.**

22 (a) AUTHORIZED ADDITIONAL FTES.—In addition
23 to the number of full-time equivalent positions authorized
24 for the Office of the Director of National Intelligence for
25 a fiscal year, there is authorized for such Office for each

1 fiscal year an additional 50 full-time equivalent positions
2 that may be utilized only for the purposes described in
3 subsection (b).

4 (b) PURPOSES.—The Director of National Intel-
5 ligence may use a full-time equivalent position authorized
6 under subsection (a) only for the purposes of providing
7 a temporary transfer of personnel made pursuant to the
8 authority in section 102A(e)(2) of the National Security
9 Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 403–1(e)(2)) to an element of the
10 intelligence community to enable such element to increase
11 its total authorized number of personnel, on a temporary
12 basis—

13 (1) during a period in which a permanent em-
14 ployee of such element is absent to participate in
15 foreign language training; or

16 (2) to accept a permanent employee of another
17 element of the intelligence community to provide
18 translation services a temporary basis.

19 (c) INAPPLICABILITY OF OTHER LAW.—Subpara-
20 graph (B) of section 102A(e)(2) of the National Security
21 Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 403–1(e)(2)) shall not apply to
22 a transfer of personnel authorizations made under this
23 section.

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