

113TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1642

To protect the eligibility for Federal employment and access to classified information for Department of Defense civilian employees who may incur financial hardships as a result of furloughs dictated by sequestration.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 18, 2013

Mr. KILMER (for himself, Ms. HANABUSA, and Mr. HECK of Washington) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services

A BILL

To protect the eligibility for Federal employment and access to classified information for Department of Defense civilian employees who may incur financial hardships as a result of furloughs dictated by sequestration.

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 “Security Clearance
5 Protection Act of 2013”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds the following:

1 (1) On March 1, 2013, pursuant to the Budget
2 Control Act of 2011, across-the-board spending cuts
3 went into effect, triggering a massive cut in Federal
4 discretionary spending across each Federal depart-
5 ment and agency until \$1.2 trillion in savings is
6 achieved.

7 (2) The impact of the cuts from sequestration
8 will be significant and will affect many civilian em-
9 ployees who work for the Federal Government, some
10 of whom handle classified materials to protect na-
11 tional security.

12 (3) To absorb such budget cuts, Federal de-
13 partment and agencies will furlough many civilian
14 employees for up to 22 days a year.

15 (4) Some civilian employees will incur financial
16 hardships and may not be able to meet their finan-
17 cial obligations due to loss of pay.

18 (5) Sequestration and employee furloughs are a
19 result of circumstances outside of the control of Fed-
20 eral employees and no fault of their own.

21 **SEC. 3. NO EFFECT ON ACCESS TO CLASSIFIED INFORMA-**
22 **TION DUE TO SEQUESTRATION.**

23 The Secretary of Defense shall ensure that, if any
24 financial hardship is incurred by a civilian employee of the
25 Department of Defense due to a furlough as a result of

1 sequestration under section 251A of the Balanced Budget
2 and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, that financial
3 hardship will not affect the employee's—

4 (1) eligibility for continued suitability for em-
5 ployment by the Department;

6 (2) access to classified information; or

7 (3) suitability to hold a position critical to na-
8 tional security.

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