

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 10358

To amend the Foreign Service Act of 1980 to provide for portability of professional licenses, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 11, 2024

Mr. CASTRO of Texas introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

A BILL

To amend the Foreign Service Act of 1980 to provide for portability of professional licenses, 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 Fami-
5 lies Improvements Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. PORTABILITY OF PROFESSIONAL LICENSES.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 9 of title I of the Foreign
8 Service Act of 1980 (22 U.S.C. 4081 et seq.) is amended
9 by adding after section 908 the following:

1 **“SEC. 909. PORTABILITY OF PROFESSIONAL LICENSES.**

2 “(a) IN GENERAL.—In any case in which a member
3 of the Foreign Service or the spouse of a member of the
4 Foreign Service has a covered United States license and
5 such member of the Foreign Service or spouse relocates
6 his or her residency because of an assignment or detail
7 to a location that is not in the jurisdiction of the licensing
8 authority that issued the covered license, such covered li-
9 cense shall be considered valid at a similar scope of prac-
10 tice and in the discipline applied for in the jurisdiction
11 of such new residency for the duration of such an assign-
12 ment or detail if such member of the Foreign Service or
13 spouse—

14 “(1) provides a copy of the member’s notifica-
15 tion of assignment to the licensing authority in the
16 jurisdiction in which the new residency is located;

17 “(2) remains in good standing with—

18 “(A) the licensing authority that issued the
19 covered license; and

20 “(B) every other licensing authority that
21 has issued to the member of the Foreign Serv-
22 ice or spouse a license valid at a similar scope
23 of practice and in the discipline applied in the
24 jurisdiction of such licensing authority; and

25 “(3) submits to the authority of the licensing
26 authority in the new jurisdiction for the purposes of

1 standards of practice, discipline, and fulfillment of
2 any continuing education requirements.

3 “(b) INTERSTATE LICENSURE COMPACTS.—If a
4 member of the Foreign Service or spouse of a member of
5 the Foreign Service is licensed and able to operate in mul-
6 tiple jurisdictions through an interstate licensure compact,
7 with respect to services provided in the jurisdiction of the
8 interstate licensure compact by a licensee covered by such
9 compact, the member of the Foreign Service or spouse of
10 a member of the Foreign Service shall be subject to the
11 requirements of the compact or the applicable provisions
12 of law of the applicable State and not this section.

13 “(c) COVERED LICENSE DEFINED.—In this section,
14 the term ‘covered license’ means a professional license or
15 certificate—

16 “(1) that is in good standing with the licensing
17 authority that issued such professional license or
18 certificate;

19 “(2) that the member of the Foreign Service or
20 spouse of a member of the Foreign Service has ac-
21 tively used during the two years immediately pre-
22 ceding the relocation described in subsection (a); and

23 “(3) that is not a license to practice law.”.

24 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents
25 in section 2 of the Foreign Service Act of 1980 is amended

1 by inserting after the item relating to section 908 the fol-
2 lowing new item:

“Sec. 909. Portability of professional licenses.”.

3 **SEC. 3. TERMINATION OF RESIDENTIAL OR MOTOR VEHI-**
4 **CLE LEASES AND TELEPHONE SERVICE CON-**
5 **TRACTS FOR MEMBERS OF THE FOREIGN**
6 **SERVICE.**

7 Section 907 of the Foreign Service Act of 1980 (22
8 U.S.C. 4087) is amended by striking “Service who are
9 posted abroad at a Foreign Service post” and inserting
10 “Foreign Service who are posted in the United States or
11 posted abroad”.

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