

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 6106

To amend title 18, United States Code, to prevent and mitigate the potential for conflicts of interest following government service, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 18, 2025

Mr. PFLUGER (for himself and Mr. CROW) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committees on the Judiciary, and Rules, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To amend title 18, United States Code, to prevent and mitigate the potential for conflicts of interest following government 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 “Conflict-free Leaving
5 Employment and Activity Restrictions Path Act” or the
6 “CLEAR Path Act”.

7 **SEC. 2. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

8 It is the sense of Congress that—

1 (1) Congress and the executive branch have rec-
 2 ognized the importance of preventing and mitigating
 3 the potential for conflicts of interest following gov-
 4 ernment service, including with respect to senior
 5 United States officials working on behalf of foreign
 6 governments; and

7 (2) Congress and the executive branch should
 8 jointly evaluate the status and scope of post-employ-
 9 ment restrictions.

10 **SEC. 3. POST-EMPLOYMENT RESTRICTIONS ON OFFICIALS**
 11 **IN POSITIONS SUBJECT TO SENATE CON-**
 12 **FIRMATION.**

13 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 207 of title 18, United
 14 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-
 15 lowing:

16 “(m) EXTENDED POST-EMPLOYMENT RESTRICTIONS
 17 FOR OFFICIALS IN POSITIONS SUBJECT TO SENATE CON-
 18 FIRMATION.—

19 “(1) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

20 “(A) COUNTRY OF CONCERN.—The term
 21 ‘country of concern’ has the meaning given the
 22 term in section 1(m) of the State Department
 23 Basic Authorities Act of 1956 (22 U.S.C.
 24 2651a(m)), except that it does not include the
 25 country described in paragraph (1)(A)(vi) of

1 that section, as in effect on the date of enact-
2 ment of the Conflict-free Leaving Employment
3 and Activity Restrictions Path Act.

4 “(B) FOREIGN GOVERNMENTAL ENTITY.—

5 The term ‘foreign governmental entity’ has the
6 meaning given the term in section 1(m) of the
7 State Department Basic Authorities Act of
8 1956 (22 U.S.C. 2651a(m)).

9 “(C) REPRESENT.—The term ‘represent’

10 does not include representation by an attorney,
11 who is duly licensed and authorized to provide
12 legal advice in a United States jurisdiction, of
13 a person or entity in a legal capacity or for the
14 purposes of rendering legal advice.

15 “(D) SENATE-CONFIRMED POSITION.—The

16 term ‘Senate-confirmed position’ means a posi-
17 tion in a department or agency of the executive
18 branch of the United States for which appoint-
19 ment is required to be made by the President,
20 by and with the advice and consent of the Sen-
21 ate.

22 “(2) AGENCY HEADS, DEPUTY HEADS, AND

23 OTHER POSITIONS SUBJECT TO SENATE CONFIRMA-
24 TION.—Any person who serves in a position requir-
25 ing appointment by the President as head or deputy

1 head of, or serves in any other Senate-confirmed po-
2 sition in, a department or agency of the executive
3 branch of the United States, and who, at any time
4 after the termination of the person's service in that
5 position, knowingly represents, aids, or advises a for-
6 eign governmental entity of a country of concern be-
7 fore an officer or employee of the executive or legis-
8 lative branch of the United States with the intent to
9 influence a decision of the officer or employee in car-
10 rying out his or her official duties shall be punished
11 as provided in section 216.

12 “(3) NOTICE OF RESTRICTIONS.—Any person
13 subject to the restrictions under this subsection shall
14 be provided notice of these restrictions by the rel-
15 evant department or agency—

16 “(A) upon appointment by the President;
17 and

18 “(B) upon termination of service with the
19 relevant department or agency.

20 “(4) EFFECTIVE DATE.—

21 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in
22 subparagraph (B), the restrictions under this
23 subsection shall apply only to persons who are
24 appointed by the President to the positions ref-
25 erenced in this subsection on or after the date

1 of enactment of the Conflict-free Leaving Em-
2 ployment and Activity Restrictions Path Act.

3 “(B) GRACE PERIOD FOR ADDED COUN-
4 TRIES OF CONCERN.—If the definition of the
5 term ‘country of concern’ under subsection (m)
6 of section 1 of the State Department Basic Au-
7 thorities Act of 1956 (22 U.S.C. 2651a) is
8 modified in accordance with paragraph (7) of
9 that subsection by adding a country to the list
10 of countries described in paragraph (1)(A) of
11 that subsection, in the case of any person who
12 is appointed by the President to a position ref-
13 erenced in this subsection on or after the date
14 of enactment of the Conflict-free Leaving Em-
15 ployment and Activity Restrictions Path Act
16 and who knowingly represents, aids, or advises
17 a foreign governmental entity of a country
18 added to the list of countries described in para-
19 graph (1)(A) of such subsection (m), the re-
20 strictions under this subsection shall apply to
21 such person on and after the date that is 30
22 days after the date of enactment of a relevant
23 joint resolution of approval as described in
24 paragraph (7)(C) of such subsection (m) adding

1 that country to the list of countries described in
2 paragraph (1)(A) of such subsection (m).

3 “(5) SUNSET.—

4 “(A) IN GENERAL.—On and after the date
5 that is 5 years after the date of enactment of
6 the Conflict-free Leaving Employment and Ac-
7 tivity Restrictions Path Act, the restrictions
8 under paragraph (2) shall not apply to any per-
9 son appointed by the President, on or after
10 such date of enactment, to a position referenced
11 in this subsection, without regard to the date
12 on which the service of such person in such po-
13 sition terminates.

14 “(B) NO EFFECT ON CONDUCT BEFORE
15 SUNSET.—Nothing in subparagraph (A) shall
16 be construed to limit the applicability of para-
17 graph (2) with respect to any conduct by a per-
18 son appointed by the President to a position
19 referenced in this subsection that occurred be-
20 fore the date that is 5 years after the date of
21 enactment of the Conflict-free Leaving Employ-
22 ment and Activity Restrictions Path Act.”.

23 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 1(m) of the
24 State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 (22
25 U.S.C. 2651a(m)) is amended—

1 (1) by redesignating paragraphs (6) and (7) as
 2 paragraphs (8) and (9), respectively; and

3 (2) by inserting after paragraph (5) the fol-
 4 lowing:

5 “(6) RELATION TO GOVERNMENT-WIDE RE-
 6 STRICTIONS.—This subsection shall not apply to a
 7 person by reason of the person’s service in a position
 8 referenced in this subsection if the person is subject
 9 to the restrictions under section 207(m) of title 18,
 10 United States Code, by reason of the same service.”.

11 **SEC. 4. MECHANISM TO AMEND DEFINITION OF “COUNTRY**
 12 **OF CONCERN”.**

13 Section 1(m) of the State Department Basic Authori-
 14 ties Act of 1956 (22 U.S.C. 2651a(m)) is amended by in-
 15 serting after paragraph (6), as added by section 3(b), the
 16 end the following:

17 “(7) MODIFICATION TO DEFINITION OF ‘COUN-
 18 TRY OF CONCERN’.—

19 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of
 20 State may, in consultation with the Attorney
 21 General, propose the addition or deletion of
 22 countries described in paragraph (1)(A).

23 “(B) SUBMISSION.—Any proposal de-
 24 scribed in subparagraph (A) shall—

1 “(i) be submitted to the Chairman
2 and Ranking Member of the Committee on
3 Foreign Relations of the Senate and the
4 Chairman and Ranking Member of the
5 Committee on the Judiciary of the House
6 of Representatives; and

7 “(ii) become effective upon enactment
8 of a joint resolution of approval as de-
9 scribed in subparagraph (C).

10 “(C) JOINT RESOLUTION OF APPROVAL.—

11 “(i) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of
12 subparagraph (B)(ii), the term ‘joint reso-
13 lution of approval’ means only a joint reso-
14 lution—

15 “(I) that does not have a pre-
16 amble;

17 “(II) that includes in the matter
18 after the resolving clause the fol-
19 lowing: ‘That Congress approves the
20 modification of the definition of
21 “country of concern” under section
22 1(m) of the State Department Basic
23 Authorities Act of 1956, as submitted
24 by the Secretary of State on
25 _____; and section 1(m)(1)(A) of

1 the State Department Basic Authori-
2 ties Act of 1956 (22 U.S.C.
3 2651a(m)(1)(A)) is amended by
4 _____.', the blank spaces
5 being appropriately filled in with the
6 appropriate date and the amendatory
7 language required to modify the list of
8 countries in paragraph (1)(A) of this
9 subsection by adding or deleting 1 or
10 more countries; and

11 “(III) the title of which is as fol-
12 lows: ‘Joint resolution approving
13 modifications to definition of “country
14 of concern” under section 1(m) of the
15 State Department Basic Authorities
16 Act of 1956.’.

17 “(ii) REFERRAL.—

18 “(I) SENATE.—A resolution de-
19 scribed in clause (i) that is introduced
20 in the Senate shall be referred to the
21 Committee on Foreign Relations of
22 the Senate.

23 “(II) HOUSE OF REPRESENTA-
24 TIVES.—A resolution described in
25 clause (i) that is introduced in the

1 House of Representatives shall be re-
2 ferred to the Committee on the Judi-
3 ciary of the House of Representa-
4 tives.”.

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