

105TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 633

## AN ACT

To amend the Foreign Service Act of 1980 to provide that the annuities of certain special agents and security personnel of the Department of State be computed in the same way as applies generally with respect to Federal law enforcement officers, and for other purposes.

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## AN ACT

To amend the Foreign Service Act of 1980 to provide that the annuities of certain special agents and security personnel of the Department of State be computed in the same way as applies generally with respect to Federal law enforcement officers, 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 “Department of State  
5       Special Agents Retirement Act of 1998”.

6       **SEC. 2. AMENDMENTS RELATING TO THE FOREIGN SERV-**  
7               **ICE RETIREMENT AND DISABILITY SYSTEM.**

8       (a) DEFINITION OF A SPECIAL AGENT.—

9               (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 804 of the Foreign  
10       Service Act of 1980 (22 U.S.C. 4044) is amended—

11               (A) by striking “and” at the end of para-  
12       graph (13);

13               (B) by striking the period at the end of  
14       paragraph (14) and inserting “; and”; and

15               (C) by adding at the end the following:

16               “(15) ‘special agent’ means an employee of the  
17       Department of State with a primary skill code of  
18       2501—

19               “(A) the duties of whose position—

20               “(i) are primarily—

21               “(I) the investigation, apprehen-  
22       sion, or detention of individuals sus-  
23       pected or convicted of offenses against  
24       the criminal laws of the United  
25       States, or

1 “(II) the protection of persons  
2 pursuant to section 2709(a)(3) of title  
3 22, United States Code, against  
4 threats to personal safety; and

5 “(ii) are sufficiently rigorous that em-  
6 ployment opportunities should be limited to  
7 young and physically vigorous individuals,  
8 as determined by the Secretary of State  
9 pursuant to section 4823 of title 22,  
10 United States Code;

11 “(B) performing duties described in sub-  
12 paragraph (A) before, on, or after the date of  
13 the enactment of this paragraph; or

14 “(C) transferred directly to a position  
15 which is supervisory or administrative in nature  
16 after performing duties described in subpara-  
17 graph (A) for at least 3 years.”.

18 (2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 852  
19 of such Act (22 U.S.C. 4071a) is amended—

20 (A) by striking “and” at the end of para-  
21 graph (7);

22 (B) by striking the period at the end of  
23 paragraph (8) and inserting “; and”; and

24 (C) by adding at the end the following:

1           “(9) the term ‘special agent’ has the same  
2           meaning given in section 804(15).”.

3           (b) CONTRIBUTIONS.—

4           (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 805(a) of such Act  
5           (22 U.S.C. 4045(a)) is amended by adding at the  
6           end the following:

7           “(3) For service as a special agent, paragraph (1)  
8           shall be applied by substituting for ‘7 percent’ the percent-  
9           age that applies to law enforcement officers under section  
10          8334(a)(1) of title 5, United States Code.”.

11          (2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section  
12          805(a)(1) (22 U.S.C. 4045(a)(1)) of such Act is  
13          amended by striking “Except as provided in sub-  
14          section (h),” and inserting “Except as otherwise  
15          provided in this section,”.

16          (c) SPECIAL CONTRIBUTION FOR PRIOR NON-  
17          DEPOSIT SERVICE.—Section 805(d) of such Act (22  
18          U.S.C. 4045(d)) is amended by adding at the end the fol-  
19          lowing:

20          “(6) Subject to paragraph (4) and subsection (h), for  
21          purposes of applying this subsection with respect to prior  
22          service as a special agent, the percentages of basic pay  
23          set forth in section 8334(c) of title 5, United States Code,  
24          with respect to a law enforcement officer, shall apply in-  
25          stead of the percentages set forth in paragraph (1).”.

1 (d) COMPUTATION OF ANNUITIES.—

2 (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 806(a) of such Act  
3 (22 U.S.C. 4046(a)) is amended—

4 (A) by redesignating paragraph (6) as  
5 paragraph (7); and

6 (B) by inserting after paragraph (5) the  
7 following:

8 “(6)(A) The annuity of a special agent under this  
9 subchapter shall be computed under paragraph (1) except  
10 that, in the case of a special agent described in subpara-  
11 graph (B), paragraph (1) shall be applied by substituting  
12 for ‘2 percent’—

13 “(i) the percentage under subparagraph (A) of  
14 section 8339(d)(1) of title 5, United States Code, for  
15 so much of the participant’s total service as is speci-  
16 fied thereunder; and

17 “(ii) the percentage under subparagraph (B) of  
18 section 8339(d)(1) of title 5, United States Code, for  
19 so much of the participant’s total service as is speci-  
20 fied thereunder.

21 “(B) A special agent described in this subparagraph  
22 is any such agent or former agent who—

23 “(i)(I) retires voluntarily or involuntarily under  
24 section 607, 608, 611, 811, 812, or 813, under con-  
25 ditions authorizing an immediate annuity, other

1       than for cause on charges of misconduct or delin-  
2       quency, or retires for disability under section 808;  
3       and

4           “(II) at the time of retirement—

5               “(aa) if voluntary, is at least 50 years of  
6               age and has completed at least 20 years of serv-  
7               ice as a special agent; or

8               “(bb) if involuntary or disability, has com-  
9               pleted at least 20 years of service as a special  
10              agent; or

11             “(ii) dies in Service after completing at least 20  
12             years of service as a special agent, when an annuity  
13             is payable under section 809.

14             “(C) For purposes of subparagraph (B), included  
15             with the years of service performed by an individual as  
16             a special agent shall be any service performed by such in-  
17             dividual as a law enforcement officer (within the meaning  
18             of section 8331(20) or section 8401(17) of title 5, United  
19             States Code), or a member of the Capitol Police.”.

20             (2) SPECIAL RULE FOR SPECIAL AGENTS WITH  
21             PRIOR SERVICE UNDER THE FOREIGN SERVICE RE-  
22             TIREMENT AND DISABILITY SYSTEM OR THE CIVIL  
23             SERVICE RETIREMENT SYSTEM.—Section 806(a) of  
24             such Act (22 U.S.C. 4046(a)), as amended by para-  
25             graph (1), is further amended—

1 (A) by redesignating paragraph (7) (as so  
 2 redesignated by paragraph (1)) as paragraph  
 3 (8); and

4 (B) by inserting after paragraph (6) (as  
 5 added by paragraph (1)) the following:

6 “(7) In the case of a special agent who becomes  
 7 or became subject to subchapter II—

8 “(A) for purposes of paragraph (6)(B),  
 9 any service performed by the individual as a  
 10 special agent (whether under this subchapter or  
 11 under subchapter II), as a law enforcement offi-  
 12 cer (within the meaning of section 8331(20) or  
 13 section 8401(17) of title 5, United States  
 14 Code), or as a member of the Capitol Police  
 15 shall be creditable; and

16 “(B) if the individual satisfies paragraph  
 17 6(B), the portion of such individual’s annuity  
 18 which is attributable to service under the For-  
 19 eign Service Retirement and Disability System  
 20 or the Civil Service Retirement System shall be  
 21 computed in conformance with paragraph (6).”.

22 (3) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMEND-  
 23 MENTS.—

24 (A) Paragraph (8) of section 806(a) of  
 25 such Act (22 U.S.C. 4046(a)), as so redesign-



1 nated by paragraph (2)(A), is amended by  
 2 striking “and (4)” and inserting “(4), and (6)”.

3 (B) Paragraphs (1) and (3) of section  
 4 855(b) of such Act (22 U.S.C. 4071d(b)) are  
 5 each amended by inserting “611,” after “608,”.

6 **SEC. 3. MANDATORY SEPARATION OF SPECIAL AGENTS.**

7 The first sentence of section 812(a)(2) of the Foreign  
 8 Service Act of 1980 (22 U.S.C. 4052(a)(2)) is amended  
 9 to read as follows: “Notwithstanding paragraph (1)—

10 “(A) an individual described in section 4(a)(2)  
 11 of the Department of State Special Agents Retirement  
 12 Act of 1998 who is otherwise eligible for immediate  
 13 retirement under this chapter, or

14 “(B) a Foreign Service criminal investigator/in-  
 15 spector of the Office of Inspector General of the  
 16 Agency for International Development who would  
 17 have been eligible for retirement pursuant to either  
 18 section 8336(c) or 8412(d) of title 5, United States  
 19 Code, as applicable, had the employee remained in  
 20 civil service,

21 shall be separated from the Service on the last day of the  
 22 month in which such individual under subparagraph (A)  
 23 or such Foreign Service criminal investigator/inspector  
 24 under subparagraph (B) attains 57 years of age or com-  
 25 pletes 20 years of service if then over that age.”.

1 **SEC. 4. EFFECTIVE DATE; APPLICABILITY.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subsection

3 (b), this Act and the amendments made by this Act—

4 (1) shall take effect on the date of the enact-  
5 ment of this Act; and

6 (2) shall apply with respect to—

7 (A) any individual first appointed on or  
8 after that date as a special agent who will have  
9 any portion of such individual's annuity com-  
10 puted in conformance with section 806(a)(6) of  
11 the Foreign Service Act; and

12 (B) any individual making an election  
13 under subsection (b), subject to the provisions  
14 of such subsection.

15 (b) ELECTION FOR CURRENT PARTICIPANTS.—

16 (1) ELIGIBILITY.—An election under this sub-  
17 section may be made by any currently employed par-  
18 ticipant under chapter 8 of the Foreign Service Act  
19 of 1980 who is serving or has served as a special  
20 agent, or by a survivor of a special agent who was  
21 eligible to make an election under this section.

22 (2) EFFECT OF AN ELECTION.—

23 (A) IN GENERAL.—If an individual makes  
24 an election under this subsection, the amend-  
25 ments made by this Act shall become applicable

1 with respect to such individual, subject to sub-  
2 paragraph (B).

3 (B) TREATMENT OF PRIOR SERVICE.—

4 (i) SPECIAL CONTRIBUTION.—An in-  
5 dividual may, after making the election  
6 under this subsection, make a special con-  
7 tribution up to the full amount of the dif-  
8 ference between the contributions actually  
9 deducted from pay for prior service and  
10 the deductions that would have been re-  
11 quired if the amendments made by this Act  
12 had then been in effect. Any special con-  
13 tributions under this clause shall be com-  
14 puted under regulations based on section  
15 805(d) of the Foreign Service Act of 1980  
16 (as amended by section 2), including provi-  
17 sions relating to the computation of inter-  
18 est.

19 (ii) ACTUARIAL REDUCTION.—

20 (I) RULE IF THE SPECIAL CON-  
21 TRIBUTION IS PAID.—If the full  
22 amount of the special contribution  
23 under clause (i) is paid, no reduction  
24 under this clause shall apply.

1 (II) RULE IF LESS THAN THE  
2 ENTIRE AMOUNT IS PAID.—If no spe-  
3 cial contribution under clause (i) is  
4 paid, or if less than the entire amount  
5 of such special contribution is paid,  
6 the recomputed annuity shall be re-  
7 duced by an amount sufficient to  
8 make up the actuarial present value of  
9 the shortfall.

10 (c) REGULATIONS AND NOTICE.—Not later than 6  
11 months after the date of the enactment of this Act, the  
12 Secretary of State—

13 (1) shall promulgate such regulations as may be  
14 necessary to carry out this Act; and

15 (2) shall take measures reasonably designed to  
16 provide notice to participants as to any rights they  
17 might have under this Act.

18 (d) ELECTION DEADLINE.—An election under sub-  
19 section (b) must be made not later than 90 days after  
20 the date on which the relevant notice under subsection  
21 (c)(2) is provided.

22 (e) DEFINITION.—For purposes of this section, the  
23 term “special agent” has the meaning given such term

- 1 under section 804(15) of the Foreign Service Act of 1980
- 2 (22 U.S.C. 4044(15)), as amended by section 2(a).

Passed the House of Representatives October 5,  
1998.

Attest:

*Clerk.*