

106TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 5487

To establish the W. John Child Memorial Foreign Language Award to recognize foreign language proficiency by members of the Foreign Service who are employees of the Department of Agriculture.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 18, 2000

Mr. EHRLICH introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on International Relations

A BILL

To establish the W. John Child Memorial Foreign Language Award to recognize foreign language proficiency by members of the Foreign Service who are employees of the Department of Agriculture.

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 “W. John Child Memo-
5 rial Foreign Language Award Act of 2000”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 The Congress makes the following findings:

1 (1) The late W. John Child was an exemplary
2 Foreign Agricultural Service Officer of the Depart-
3 ment of Agriculture who worked tirelessly for dec-
4 ades to open the Japanese market to United States
5 agricultural products.

6 (2) For 27 and a half years, Mr. Child served
7 the United States with the utmost distinction and
8 honor and made an extraordinary contribution to the
9 cause of American agriculture in the Japanese mar-
10 ket.

11 (3) Much of Mr. Child's success was due to his
12 remarkable command of the Japanese language,
13 whereby he was able to make the case for United
14 States agriculture directly to the Japanese people.

15 (4) Mr. Child's efforts have demonstrated the
16 importance of foreign language proficiency for For-
17 eign Service officers serving in the United States
18 Department of Agriculture.

19 (5) Congress finds it appropriate to memorialize
20 Mr. Child's accomplishments by establishing a foreign
21 language proficiency award for Foreign Service offi-
22 cers who are employees of the Department of Agri-
23 culture.

1 **SEC. 2. ESTABLISHMENT OF W. JOHN CHILD MEMORIAL**
2 **FOREIGN LANGUAGE AWARD.**

3 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established an award
4 designated the “W. John Child Memorial Foreign Lan-
5 guage Award” (hereinafter in this Act referred to as “the
6 Award”) for the recognition of distinguished foreign lan-
7 guage proficiency by members of the Foreign Service who
8 are career officers or employees of the Department of Ag-
9 riculture.

10 (b) AWARD CITATION.—Recipients of the Award
11 shall receive a citation which shall be of such design as
12 shall be determined by the Secretary of Agriculture.

13 (c) AUTHORITY.—The Secretary of Agriculture shall
14 designate annually one or more recipients of the Award
15 from among individuals nominated for the Award pursu-
16 ant to such regulations as the Secretary may prescribe,
17 after consultation with the Administrator of the Foreign
18 Agricultural Service and the Administrator of the Animal
19 and Plant Health Inspection Service of the Department
20 of Agriculture.

21 (d) POSTHUMOUS AWARD.—An Award may be made
22 to an individual who is a former employee of the Depart-
23 ment of Agriculture or to an individual who is deceased.
24 The presentation of an award may be made to an individ-
25 ual’s next of kin or representative, as designated by the
26 Secretary.

1 (e) DEFINITION OF MEMBER OF THE FOREIGN
2 SERVICE.—In this Act, the term “member of the Foreign
3 Service” means any individual described under section 103
4 of the Foreign Service Act of 1980.

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