

One Hundred Fifteenth Congress  
of the  
United States of America

AT THE FIRST SESSION

*Begun and held at the City of Washington on Tuesday,  
the third day of January, two thousand and seventeen*

An Act

To provide for an exception to a limitation against appointment of persons as Secretary of Defense within seven years of relief from active duty as a regular commissioned officer of the Armed Forces.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of  
the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

**SECTION 1. EXCEPTION TO LIMITATION AGAINST APPOINTMENT OF  
PERSONS AS SECRETARY OF DEFENSE WITHIN SEVEN  
YEARS OF RELIEF FROM ACTIVE DUTY AS REGULAR  
COMMISSIONED OFFICERS OF THE ARMED FORCES.**

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Notwithstanding the second sentence of section 113(a) of title 10, United States Code, the first person appointed, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, as Secretary of Defense after the date of the enactment of this Act may be a person who is, on the date of appointment, within seven years after relief, but not within three years after relief, from active duty as a commissioned officer of a regular component of the Armed Forces.

(b) **LIMITED EXCEPTION.**—This section applies only to the first person appointed as Secretary of Defense as described in subsection (a) after the date of the enactment of this Act, and to no other person.

*Speaker of the House of Representatives.*

*Vice President of the United States and  
President of the Senate.*