

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 4921

To amend the Foreign Service Act of 1980 to require a certain appointments of chiefs of mission to be from Foreign Service or Civil Service of the Department of State, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 30, 2019

Mr. BERA introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

A BILL

To amend the Foreign Service Act of 1980 to require a certain appointments of chiefs of mission to be from Foreign Service or Civil Service of the Department of State, 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 “Strengthening Tradi-
5 tional American Diplomacy Act” or the “STAND Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. REQUIREMENT RELATING TO APPOINTMENT AS A**
2 **CHIEF OF MISSION.**

3 Paragraph (2) of section 304(a) of the Foreign Serv-
4 ice Act of 1980 (22 U.S.C. 3944(a)) is amended—

5 (1) by inserting “or Civil Service of the Depart-
6 ment of State” after “be accorded to career mem-
7 bers of the Service”; and

8 (2) by adding at the end the following new sen-
9 tence: “Not less than 70 percent of appointments
10 and assignments under this section shall be of career
11 members of Service or Civil Service of the Depart-
12 ment, except that this requirement may be waived if
13 the President certifies in writing, on a case by case
14 basis, to the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the
15 House of Representatives and the Committee on
16 Foreign Relations of the Senate, that a reduction in
17 such percentage is vital to the national security in-
18 terests of the United States.”.

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