

Executive Service for failure to be reclassified as a senior executive under section 3393a of title 5, United States Code.

SEC. 2302. ADJUSTMENT OF LIMITATION ON TOTAL ANNUAL COMPENSATION.

Section 5307(a) of title 5, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(3) Notwithstanding paragraph (1), the total payment referred to under such paragraph with respect to an employee paid under section 5372, 5376, or 5383 of title 5 or section 332(f), 603, or 604 of title 28 shall not exceed the total annual compensation payable to the Vice President under section 104 of title 3. Regulations prescribed under subsection (c) may extend the application of this paragraph to other equivalent categories of employees.”.

TITLE XXIV—ACADEMIC TRAINING

SEC. 2401. ACADEMIC TRAINING.

(a) ACADEMIC DEGREE TRAINING.—Section 4107 of title 5, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

“§ 4107. Academic degree training

“(a) Subject to subsection (b), an agency may select and assign an employee to academic degree training and may pay or reimburse the costs of academic degree training from appropriated or other available funds if such training—

“(1) contributes significantly to—

“(A) meeting an identified agency training need;

“(B) resolving an identified agency staffing problem; or

“(C) accomplishing goals in the strategic plan of the agency;

“(2) is part of a planned, systematic, and coordinated agency employee development program linked to accomplishing the strategic goals of the agency; and

“(3) is accredited and is provided by a college or university that is accredited by a nationally recognized body.

“(b) In exercising authority under subsection (a), an agency shall—

“(1) consistent with the merit system principles set forth in paragraphs (2) and (7) of section 2301(b), take into consideration the need to—

“(A) maintain a balanced workforce in which women, members of racial and ethnic minority groups, and persons with disabilities are appropriately represented in Government service; and

“(B) provide employees effective education and training to improve organizational and individual performance;

“(2) assure that the training is not for the sole purpose of providing an employee an opportunity to obtain an academic degree or to qualify for appointment to a particular position for which the academic degree is a basic requirement;

“(3) assure that no authority under this subsection is exercised on behalf of any employee occupying or seeking to qualify for—

“(A) a noncareer appointment in the Senior Executive Service; or

“(B) appointment to any position that is excepted from the competitive service because of its confidential policy-determining, policymaking, or policy-advocating character; and

“(4) to the greatest extent practicable, facilitate the use of online degree training.”.

(b) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for chapter 41 of title 5, United States Code, is amended by striking the item relating to section 4107 and inserting the following:

“4107. Academic degree training.”.

SEC. 2402. MODIFICATIONS TO NATIONAL SECURITY EDUCATION PROGRAM.

(a) FINDINGS AND POLICIES.—

(1) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

(A) the United States Government actively encourages and financially supports the training, education, and development of many United States citizens;

(B) as a condition of some of those supports, many of those citizens have an obligation to seek either compensated or uncompensated employment in the Federal sector; and

(C) it is in the United States national interest to maximize the return to the Nation of funds invested in the development of such citizens by seeking to employ them in the Federal sector.

(2) POLICY.—It shall be the policy of the United States Government to—

(A) establish procedures for ensuring that United States citizens who have incurred service obligations as the result of receiving financial support for education and training from the United States Government and have applied for Federal positions are considered in all recruitment and hiring initiatives of Federal departments, bureaus, agencies, and offices; and

(B) advertise and open all Federal positions to United States citizens who have incurred service obligations with the United States Government as the result of receiving financial support for education and training from the United States Government.

(b) FULFILLMENT OF SERVICE REQUIREMENT IF NATIONAL SECURITY POSITIONS ARE UNAVAILABLE.—Section 802(b)(2) of the David L. Boren National Security Education Act of 1991 (50 U.S.C. 1902) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A), by striking clause (i) and inserting the following:

“(i) if the recipient demonstrates to the Secretary (in accordance with such regulations) that no national security position in an agency or office of the Federal Government having national security responsibilities is available, work in other offices or agencies of the Federal Government or in the field of higher education in a discipline relating to the foreign country, foreign language, area study, or international field of study for which the scholarship was awarded, for a period specified by the Secretary, which period shall be determined in accordance with clause (i); or”;

(2) in subparagraph (B), by striking clause (ii) and inserting the following:

“(ii) if the recipient demonstrates to the Secretary (in accordance with such regulations) that no national security position is available upon the completion of the degree, work in other offices or agencies of the Federal Government or in the field of higher education in a discipline relating to the foreign country, foreign language, area study, or international field of study for which the fellowship was awarded, for a period specified by the Secretary, which period shall be established in accordance with clause (i); and”.

SEC. 2403. COMPENSATORY TIME OFF FOR TRAVEL.

Subchapter V of chapter 55 of title 5, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“§ 5550b. Compensatory time off for travel

“(a) An employee shall receive 1 hour of compensatory time off for each hour spent by the employee in travel status away from the official duty station of the employee, to the extent that the time spent in travel status is not otherwise compensable.

“(b) Not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this section, the Office of Personnel Management shall prescribe regulations to implement this section.”.

NOTICES OF HEARINGS/MEETINGS

SUBCOMMITTEE ON FORESTRY, CONSERVATION, AND RURAL REVITALIZATION

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I would like to announce that the Subcommittee on Forestry, Conservation, and Rural Revitalization of the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry will meet on September 5, 2002, in SR-328A at 9:00 a.m. The purpose of this hearing will be to discuss the decline of oak tree populations in southern states caused by prolonged drought and red oak borer insect infestation.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be authorized to meet on Tuesday, September 3, 2002, at 2:30 pm on the nomination of Marion Blakey to be the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR AND PENSIONS

Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions, Subcommittee on Public Health, be authorized to meet for a hearing on Staying Healthy: Health Issues Surrounding Proposed Changes in Clean Air Standards during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, September 3, 2002, at 2:30 p.m. in SD-430.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT—H.R. 5005

Mr. REID. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that at 1 p.m., Wednesday, September 4, when the Senate resumes consideration of H.R. 5005, Senator LIEBERMAN be recognized to call amendment No. 4471 before the Senate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. REID. This has been cleared with the minority.

NATIONAL BOOK FESTIVAL

Mr. REID. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Rules Committee be discharged from further consideration of H. Con. Res. 348, and the Senate then proceed to its consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the concurrent resolution by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 348) authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for the National Book Festival.