

S 1293

Foreign Service Families Act of 2019

Congress: 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: International Affairs

Introduced: May 2, 2019

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations. (May 2, 2019)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/senate-bill/1293>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Van Hollen, Chris [D-MD]

Party: Democratic • State: MD • Chamber: Senate

Cosponsors (2 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Sullivan, Dan [R-AK]	R · AK		May 2, 2019
Sen. Kaine, Tim [D-VA]	D · VA		Feb 4, 2020

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Foreign Relations Committee	Senate	Referred To	May 2, 2019

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

International Affairs

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Foreign Service Families Act of 2019

This bill directs the Department of State to include in the Foreign Affairs Manual an updated plan for providing telecommuting employment opportunities for the spouses of overseas Foreign Service Officers.

The State Department shall facilitate employment of such spouses by providing regular career counseling, maintaining a centralized database of the skills of such spouses and available employment opportunities, and offering other employment-related assistance. (Currently, the State Department is authorized to provide such assistance but not required to do so.) The State Department shall establish a program to help such spouses access employment and education opportunities, modeled after already-authorized programs for military spouses.

The State Department shall report to Congress on the status of the implementation of the Foreign Service Family Reserve Corps (a program designed to speed up the hiring process for eligible family members of overseas Foreign Service officers), including (1) an update on the implementation of a hiring preference for Corps members, and (2) an accounting of any Corps-eligible individuals who were unable to fill a position at new location due to an inability to transfer a security clearance.

Family members of overseas government employees shall not be held to a higher employment standard for positions customarily filled by Foreign Service officers, Foreign Service personnel, or foreign nationals.

Actions Timeline

- **May 2, 2019:** Introduced in Senate
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