

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.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 30, 2019

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

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## 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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