

AMENDMENT TO RULES COMM. PRINT 116-57

OFFERED BY MR. PHILLIPS OF MINNESOTA

Add at the end of subtitle G of title XII the following:

1 **SEC. 12 ____. PEACE CORPS.**

2 (a) HEALTH INSURANCE CONTINUATION FOR PEACE
3 CORPS VOLUNTEERS.—Section 5(e) of the Peace Corps
4 Act (22 U.S.C. 2504(e)) is amended—

5 (1) by striking “Volunteers shall receive such
6 health care” and inserting the following:

7 “(1) Volunteers shall receive such health care”;
8 and

9 (2) by adding at the end the following new
10 paragraphs:

11 “(2) Volunteers whose periods of service were
12 subject to early termination as a result of the
13 COVID-19 public health emergency declared under
14 section 319 of the Public Health Service Act (42
15 U.S.C. 247d), and applicants for enrollment de-
16 scribed in section 8(a) whose training prior to enroll-
17 ment was subject to early termination as a result of
18 such public health emergency, shall receive—

1 “(A) 2 months of health insurance upon
2 their return to the United States; and

3 “(B) an opportunity to extend such health
4 insurance, at the expense of such volunteer or
5 applicant for enrollment, until the last day of
6 the last week for which such volunteer or appli-
7 cant for enrollment is eligible for payments
8 under section 2102 of the CARES Act (Public
9 Law 116–136).

10 “(3) Not later than 30 days prior to the date
11 on which the period of service of a volunteer shall
12 terminate, the Director of the Peace Corps, in con-
13 sultation with the Secretary of Health and Human
14 Services, shall provide general guidance to such vol-
15 unteer on options for health care after termination
16 other than health care provided by the Peace Corps,
17 including—

18 “(A) on the application process and eligi-
19 bility requirements for medical assistance under
20 State plans under title XIX of the Social Secu-
21 rity Act (or waivers of State plans);

22 “(B) on the qualified health plans (as de-
23 fined in section 1301(a) of the Patient Protec-
24 tion and Affordable Care Act (42 U.S.C.
25 18021(a)) offered through an Exchange estab-

1 lished under title I of such Act, including on
2 the enrollment periods for enrolling in such
3 plans; and

4 “(C) in the case such volunteer is 25 years
5 of age or younger, that such volunteer may be
6 eligible to enroll as a dependent child in a
7 group health plan or health insurance coverage
8 in which the parent of such volunteer is enrolled
9 if such plan or coverage offers such dependent
10 coverage.”.

11 (b) EXPEDITED HIRING FOR PEACE CORPS VOLUN-
12 TEERS.—

13 (1) NONCOMPETITIVE ELIGIBILITY HIRING STA-
14 TUS.—

15 (A) DISTRIBUTION OF INFORMATION.—

16 Not later than 30 days after the date of enact-
17 ment of this Act and annually thereafter, the
18 Director of the Office of Personnel Manage-
19 ment, in coordination with the Director of the
20 Peace Corps, shall prepare and distribute infor-
21 mation to each Federal department and agency
22 in the executive branch regarding the non-
23 competitive appointment eligibility available to
24 Peace Corps Volunteers for up to three years
25 under Executive Order 11103 (22 U.S.C. 2504

1 note; relating to Providing for the Appointment
2 of Former Peace Corps Volunteers to the Civil-
3 ian Career Services), as amended by Executive
4 Order 12107 (44 Fed. Reg. 1055; relating to
5 the Civil Service Commission and Labor-Man-
6 agement in the Federal Service), including the
7 qualifications for such eligibility.

8 (B) EXPEDITED PROCESS.—Each Federal
9 department and agency in the executive branch
10 facing critical hiring needs as a result of the
11 COVID–19 pandemic or that have unfilled non-
12 competitive positions shall establish a process
13 by which staff with hiring authority receive the
14 information described in subparagraph (A) from
15 the Office of Personnel Management about the
16 expedited process for hiring such individuals
17 who meet the minimum qualifications of a va-
18 cant position.

19 (2) CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMU-
20 NITY SERVICE.—The Chief Executive Officer of the
21 Corporation for National and Community Service, in
22 coordination with the Director of the Peace Corps,
23 shall establish an expedited process by which Peace
24 Corps Volunteers and trainees evacuated due to the
25 COVID–19 public health emergency can participate

1 in domestic service opportunities through
2 AmeriCorps, FEMA Corps, or affiliated programs to
3 help address the COVID–19 pandemic.

4 (3) FOREIGN SERVICE.—Section 301(c) of the
5 Foreign Service Act of 1980 (22 U.S.C. 3941(c)) is
6 amended to read as follows:

7 “(c)(1) The fact that an applicant for appointment
8 as a Foreign Service officer candidate is a veteran or dis-
9 abled veteran shall be considered an affirmative factor in
10 making such appointments.

11 “(2) The fact that an applicant for appointment as
12 a Foreign Service officer candidate is a returned Peace
13 Corps volunteer shall be considered an affirmative factor
14 in making such appointments. The value accorded the af-
15 firmative factor under this paragraph shall be significant,
16 but shall be less than the affirmative factor provided to
17 individuals who qualify under paragraph (1).

18 “(3) In this subsection:

19 “(A) The term ‘returned Peace Corps volunteer’
20 means an individual who has completed—

21 “(i) a full term of service as a volunteer
22 under the Peace Corps Act (22 U.S.C. 2501 et
23 seq.); or

1 “(ii) satisfactory service as a Peace Corps
2 volunteer (as defined by the Director of the
3 Peace Corps).

4 “(B) The term ‘veteran or disabled veteran’
5 means an individual who is preference eligible (as
6 defined in subparagraph (A), (B), or (C) of section
7 2108(3) of title 5, United States Code).”.

8 (c) RESUMPTION OF PEACE CORPS OPERATIONS.—

9 (1) IN GENERAL.—As soon as practicable after
10 the Director of the Peace Corps determines, as a re-
11 sult of the cessation of the COVID–19 pandemic,
12 that it is safe to resume Peace Corps global oper-
13 ations, the Director shall seek to resume, to the full-
14 est extent possible, all of its programs in every coun-
15 try in which it operated immediately before the
16 March 15, 2020, suspensions of all Peace Corps vol-
17 unteer activities.

18 (2) REPORT ON RESTART OF PEACE CORPS OP-
19 ERATIONS FOLLOWING END OF PUBLIC HEALTH
20 EMERGENCY.—Not later than 90 days after the date
21 of enactment of this Act, the Director of the Peace
22 Corps shall submit a report to the Committee on
23 Foreign Relations of the Senate and the Committee
24 on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives
25 that describes the efforts of the Peace Corps to—

1 (A) offer reenrollment to each Peace Corps
2 Volunteer and trainee whose service ended sud-
3 denly on March 15, 2020 (or earlier, in the case
4 of Volunteers who were serving China and Mon-
5 golia), due to the COVID–19 public health
6 emergency;

7 (B) obtain approval from countries, as ap-
8 propriate, to return reenrolled Volunteers and
9 trainees to their previous assignments or coun-
10 tries of service;

11 (C) provide additional measures necessary
12 for the safety and health of Volunteers and
13 trainees and develop contingency plans in the
14 event overseas operations are disrupted by fu-
15 ture COVID–19 outbreaks;

16 (D) develop and maintain a robust volun-
17 teer cohort; and

18 (E) identify the anticipated additional ap-
19 propriations or new statutory authorities that
20 would be necessary to achieve the goal of safely
21 redeploying 7,300 Peace Corps Volunteers dur-
22 ing the 1-year period beginning on the date on
23 which Peace Corps operations resume.

24 (3) EXPEDITED REENROLLMENT PROCESS.—

25 The Director of the Peace Corps shall establish an

1 expedited process for the reenrollment of former
2 Peace Corps Volunteers and trainees whose service
3 was interrupted as a result of the COVID–19 pan-
4 demic, including—

5 (A) streamlining, to the fullest extent prac-
6 ticable, all application requirements for the re-
7 enrollment of such Volunteers and trainees dur-
8 ing the 2-year period beginning on March 15,
9 2020;

10 (B) expediting the medical clearance for
11 such Volunteers and trainees to facilitate re-
12 enrollment;

13 (C) starting on the date on which such a
14 Volunteer or trainee reenrolls, providing such
15 Volunteer and trainee with the compensation,
16 allowances, benefits, and other terms and condi-
17 tions of service to which such Volunteer or
18 trainee is entitled under the Peace Corps Act
19 (22 U.S.C. 2501 et seq.); and

20 (D) subject to the discretion of the Direc-
21 tor of the Peace Corps, affording evacuated
22 Volunteers and trainees, to the fullest extent
23 possible, the opportunity to return to their pre-
24 vious country of service and resume work in the
25 project area in which they had been serving

1 prior to the evacuation due to the COVID–19
2 public health emergency.

3 (4) REENROLL DEFINED.—In this subsection,
4 the term “reenroll” means a Peace Corp Volunteer
5 or trainee that was evacuated due to the COVID–
6 19 public health emergency resuming service in the
7 Peace Corps for a length of time determined by the
8 Director of the Peace Corps.

9 (d) USE OF OFFICIAL SEAL, EMBLEM, AND NAME
10 OF THE PEACE CORPS.—Section 19(b) of the Peace Corps
11 Act (22 U.S.C. 2518(b)) is amended—

12 (1) in paragraph (1), by inserting after “under
13 this chapter” the following: “, except that the offi-
14 cial seal or emblem and the name ‘Peace Corps’ may
15 be used on any death announcement, gravestone,
16 plaque, or other grave marker of any person who
17 served as a volunteer or as an officer or employee
18 of the Peace Corps under such rules as may be pre-
19 scribed by the Director”; and

20 (2) in paragraph (2), by inserting “or in ac-
21 cordance with the exception specified in paragraph
22 (1),” after “under this chapter,”.

23 (e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is
24 authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section and
25 paragraph (2) of section 5(e) of the Peace Corps Act, as

- 1 added by subsection (a), such sums as may be necessary
- 2 for each of the fiscal years 2020 through 2022.

