

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 4853

To institute a reduction in force moratorium at the Forest Service, and
for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

AUGUST 1, 2025

Mr. HUFFMAN (for himself, Ms. SALINAS, Mr. NEGUSE, Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ, Ms. HOYLE of Oregon, Ms. ELFRETH, Ms. DEXTER, and Ms. ANSARI) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture

A BILL

To institute a reduction in force moratorium at the Forest
Service, 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 “Saving the Forest
5 Service’s Workforce Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. REDUCTION IN FORCE MORATORIUM AT THE FOR-**
7 **EST SERVICE.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—Until on or after the date that
9 full-year appropriations for the Forest Service for fiscal

1 year 2026 have been enacted into law, the Secretary of
2 Agriculture (acting through the Chief of the Forest Serv-
3 ice) may not—

4 (1) initiate or implement any reduction in force
5 at the Forest Service; or

6 (2) conduct an involuntary separation of any
7 employee in the competitive service, any career em-
8 ployee in the excepted service, or any career ap-
9 pointee in the Senior Executive Service of the Forest
10 Service except for cause on charges of misconduct,
11 delinquency, or performance.

12 (b) APPLICATION.—For the purposes of carrying out
13 subsection (a)—

14 (1) the terms “competitive service”, “excepted
15 service”, and “career appointee” have the meanings
16 given those terms in sections 2102, 2103, and
17 3132(a), respectively, of title 5, United States Code;
18 and

19 (2) such subsection shall be in addition to any
20 other authority with respect to adverse personnel ac-
21 tions, including chapter 75 of title 5, United States
22 Code.

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