

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1976

To authorize congressional fellowships under the Skillbridge program.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 5, 2025

Mr. CRUZ (for himself and Ms. ROSEN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Armed Services

A BILL

To authorize congressional fellowships under the Skillbridge program.

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 “Skillbridge Congres-
5 sional Fellowship Act of 2025”.

6 **SEC. 2. CONGRESSIONAL FELLOWSHIPS UNDER THE**
7 **SKILLBRIDGE PROGRAM.**

8 Section 1143(e) of title 10, United States Code, is
9 amended—

10 (1) by redesignating paragraphs (3) through
11 (6) as paragraphs (4) through (7), respectively; and

1 (2) by inserting after paragraph (2) the fol-
2 lowing new paragraph:

3 “(3)(A) The Secretary concerned may authorize an
4 eligible member of the armed forces to participate in a
5 fellowship under this subsection with—

6 “(i) the personal office of a Member of Con-
7 gress;

8 “(ii) a leadership office of the Senate or the
9 House of Representatives; or

10 “(iii) a committee or subcommittee of Congress.

11 “(B) In carrying out this paragraph, the Secretary
12 concerned shall—

13 “(i) only authorize a member to participate in
14 a fellowship when approved by the office, committee,
15 or subcommittee in which the member will serve;

16 “(ii) ensure that not more than one member of
17 the armed forces participates in a fellowship in any
18 single office, committee, or subcommittee at one
19 time, except that the Secretary concerned may pro-
20 vide for a member of the armed forces to begin a fel-
21 lowship in an office, committee, or subcommittee not
22 more than 14 days before another member of the
23 armed forces is scheduled to complete a fellowship in
24 that office, committee, or subcommittee;

1 “(iii) consult with the commanding officer of an
2 eligible member to ensure the member is appro-
3 priately qualified for the fellowship; and

4 “(iv) in consultation with the Assistant Sec-
5 retary of Defense for Legislative Affairs, provide an
6 orientation program for members that will partici-
7 pate in fellowships to provide foundational knowl-
8 edge of the legislative process, ethical guidelines, and
9 congressional protocols.

10 “(C) The Secretary concerned shall notify the Assist-
11 ant Secretary of Defense for Legislative Affairs of each
12 member participating in a fellowship under this para-
13 graph.

14 “(D) A fellowship under this paragraph may be no
15 longer than 180 days.”.

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