

119TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 2596

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

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 31, 2025

Mr. HEINRICH (for himself and Ms. KLOBUCHAR) introduced the following  
bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture,  
Nutrition, and Forestry

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## 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  
10 year 2026 have been enacted into law, the Secretary of

1 Agriculture (acting through the Chief of the Forest Serv-  
2 ice) may not—

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

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

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

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

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

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