

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 335

AN ACT

To provide for an exception to a limitation against appointment of persons as Secretary of Defense within seven years of relief from active duty as a regular commissioned officer of the Armed Forces.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. EXCEPTION TO LIMITATION AGAINST APPOINT-**
2 **MENT OF PERSONS AS SECRETARY OF DE-**
3 **FENSE WITHIN SEVEN YEARS OF RELIEF**
4 **FROM ACTIVE DUTY AS REGULAR COMMIS-**
5 **SIONED OFFICERS OF THE ARMED FORCES.**

6 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—Notwithstanding the second sen-
7 tence of section 113(a) of title 10, United States Code,
8 the first person appointed, by and with the advice and con-
9 sent of the Senate, as Secretary of Defense in an appoint-
10 ment made on or after January 20, 2021, may be a person
11 who is, on the date of appointment, within seven years
12 after relief, but not within four years after relief, from
13 active duty as a commissioned officer of a regular compo-
14 nent of the Armed Forces.

15 (b) **LIMITED EXCEPTION.**—This section applies only
16 to the first person nominated after 12 p.m. (Eastern
17 Standard Time) on January 20, 2021, and appointed as

- 1 Secretary of Defense as described in subsection (a), and
- 2 to no other person.

Passed the House of Representatives January 21,
2021.

Attest:

Clerk.

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