

117TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 1456

AN ACT

To amend the Peace Corps Act to reauthorize the Peace Corps, better support current and returned volunteers, 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

2 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the
3 “Peace Corps Reauthorization Act of 2022”.

4 (b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for
5 this Act is as follows:

- Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
- Sec. 2. Authorization of appropriations; integration of information age Peace Corps volunteer opportunities.
- Sec. 3. Readjustment allowances; expedited re-enrollment and transition assistance.
- Sec. 4. Health care continuation for Peace Corps volunteers.
- Sec. 5. Access to antimalarial drugs and menstrual products for Peace Corps volunteers.
- Sec. 6. Codification of Executive Order 11103.
- Sec. 7. Volunteers providing virtual services for the Peace Corps.
- Sec. 8. Protection of Peace Corps volunteers against reprisal or retaliation.
- Sec. 9. Comprehensive illegal drug use policy with respect to Peace Corps volunteers.
- Sec. 10. Peace Corps National Advisory Council.
- Sec. 11. Peace Corps volunteers serving within the United States at the request of another agency.
- Sec. 12. Use of official seal, emblem, and name of the Peace Corps.
- Sec. 13. Clarification regarding eligibility of United States nationals.
- Sec. 14. Memorandum of Agreement with Bureau of Diplomatic Security of the Department of State.
- Sec. 15. Reports to Congress.
- Sec. 16. Workers compensation for Peace Corps volunteers.
- Sec. 17. Technical and conforming edits.
- Sec. 18. Determination of budgetary effects.

6 **SEC. 2. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS; INTEGRA-**
7 **TION OF INFORMATION AGE PEACE CORPS**
8 **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES.**

9 Section 3 of the Peace Corps Act (22 U.S.C. 2502)
10 is amended—

11 (1) in subsection (b)(1), by striking
12 “\$270,000,000 for fiscal year 2000, \$298,000,000
13 for fiscal year 2001, \$327,000,000 for fiscal year
14 2002, and \$365,000,000 for fiscal year 2003” and

1 inserting “\$430,500,000 for each of fiscal years
2 2023 and 2024”;

3 (2) by redesignating subsection (h) as sub-
4 section (e); and

5 (3) by adding at the end the following new sub-
6 section:

7 “(f) In recognition of the transformative power of
8 internet access in international development efforts, and,
9 as exemplified by its virtual service pilot initiative, the
10 Peace Corps shall be administered to—

11 “(1) give particular attention to the expansion
12 of those programs, projects, training, and other ac-
13 tivities that leverage the internet, as appropriate, for
14 development, education, and social and economic
15 mobility; and

16 “(2) develop positions for Peace Corps volun-
17 teers that include such programs, projects, training,
18 and other activities.”.

19 **SEC. 3. READJUSTMENT ALLOWANCES; EXPEDITED RE-EN-**
20 **ROLLMENT AND TRANSITION ASSISTANCE.**

21 (a) VOLUNTEERS.—Section 5 of the Peace Corps Act
22 (22 U.S.C. 2504) is amended—

23 (1) in the first sentence of subsection (b), by in-
24 serting “, safety,” after “health”;

25 (2) in subsection (c)—

1 (A) in the first sentence, by striking
2 “\$125” and inserting “\$375”;

3 (B) by striking “his” each place it appears
4 and inserting “the volunteer’s”; and

5 (C) by striking “he” and inserting “the
6 volunteer”;

7 (3) by redesignating subsections (e) through (p)
8 as subsections (d) through (o), respectively;

9 (4) by amending subsection (e), as so redesign-
10 nated—

11 (A) in the subsection heading, by inserting
12 “AND MENTAL HEALTH CARE” after “PRE-
13 SCRIPTION OF MEDICATIONS”; and

14 (B) by inserting “concerning the mental
15 health care provided to volunteers during their
16 service,” after “experts licensed in the field of
17 mental health,”;

18 (5) in subsection (f), as so redesignated, by
19 striking “subsequent”;

20 (6) in subsection (g), as so redesignated, by
21 striking “he” and inserting “the Director”;

22 (7) in subsection (m), as so redesignated—

23 (A) in paragraph (2)—

1 (i) by striking “subsection (e)” each
2 place it appears and inserting “subsection
3 (d)”;

4 (ii) by striking “he” and inserting
5 “the President”; and

6 (B) in paragraph (4), by striking “sub-
7 section (1)” and inserting “subsection (k)”;

8 (8) in subsection (n), as so redesignated, by
9 striking “his” each place it appears and inserting
10 “the volunteer’s”; and

11 (9) by adding at the end the following new sub-
12 sections:

13 “(p) Notwithstanding any other provision of this sec-
14 tion, with respect to Peace Corps volunteers and trainees
15 whose service ended involuntarily as a result of an emer-
16 gency, suspension of operations, or otherwise through no
17 fault of the volunteer or trainee, the Director of the Peace
18 Corps shall—

19 “(1) waive such non-medical or non-security ap-
20 plication requirements as the Director may deter-
21 mine for the re-enrollment of each such volunteer
22 and trainee during the 2-year period beginning on
23 the date of such involuntary end of service;

1 “(2) prioritize the medical clearance for each
2 such volunteer and trainee to facilitate re-enroll-
3 ment; and

4 “(3) permit each such volunteer and trainee, to
5 the extent practicable and in consideration of the
6 needs of overseas posts and the suitability of the vol-
7 unteer or trainee to meet those needs, to resume the
8 activity of each such volunteer and trainee at the
9 time of the involuntary end of service.

10 “(q) The Director of the Peace Corps may authorize
11 separation allowances, in amounts determined by the Di-
12 rector, to Peace Corps volunteers and trainees whose serv-
13 ice ended involuntarily as a result of an emergency, sus-
14 pension of operations, or otherwise through no fault of the
15 volunteer or trainee.”.

16 (b) VOLUNTEER LEADERS.—Section 6 of the Peace
17 Corps Act (22 U.S.C. 2505) is amended—

18 (1) in paragraph (1), by striking “\$125” and
19 inserting “\$375”; and

20 (2) in paragraph (3)—

21 (A) by striking “he” and inserting “the
22 Director”; and

23 (B) by striking “in section 5(e)” each
24 place it appears and inserting “in section 5(d)”.

1 **SEC. 4. HEALTH CARE CONTINUATION FOR PEACE CORPS**
2 **VOLUNTEERS.**

3 Subsection (d) of section 5 of the Peace Corps Act
4 (22 U.S.C. 2504), as redesignated pursuant to section 4,
5 is amended to read as follows:

6 “(d)(1) Volunteers and trainees shall receive such
7 health care (including, if necessary, for volunteers and
8 trainees, services under section 8B) during their service,
9 as the Director of the Peace Corps may determine to be
10 necessary or appropriate.

11 “(2) Applicants for enrollment shall receive such
12 health examinations preparatory to their service, appli-
13 cants for enrollment who have accepted an invitation to
14 begin a period of training under section 8(a) shall receive,
15 preparatory to their service, such immunization, dental
16 care, and information on prescription options and poten-
17 tial interactions, as necessary and appropriate and in ac-
18 cordance with subsection (e).

19 “(3) Returned volunteers shall receive such health ex-
20 aminations within six months after termination of their
21 service, including services provided in accordance with sec-
22 tion 8B (except that the six-month limitation shall not
23 apply in the case of such services).

24 “(4) Subject to such conditions as the President may
25 prescribe, such health care may be provided in any facility
26 of any agency of the United States Government, and in

1 such cases the appropriation for maintaining and oper-
2 ating such facility shall be reimbursed from appropriations
3 available under this Act. Health care may not be provided
4 under this subsection in a manner inconsistent with the
5 Assisted Suicide Funding Restriction Act of 1997 (Public
6 Law 105–12).

7 “(5) Returned volunteers, including those whose pe-
8 riod of service is subject to early termination as the result
9 of an emergency, shall receive upon termination of their
10 service with the Peace Corps two months of short-term
11 non-service-related health insurance for transition and
12 travel (SHIFTT), to provide coverage for a 60-day period
13 within which such volunteer will be advised to obtain quali-
14 fying health insurance, and an opportunity to extend for
15 an additional 1 month such SHIFTT insurance, at the
16 expense of such volunteer.

17 “(6) Not later than 30 days before the date on which
18 the period of service of a volunteer or trainee terminates,
19 or 30 days after the date of such termination if such ter-
20 mination is the result of an emergency, the Director of
21 the Peace Corps, in consultation with the Secretary of
22 Health and Human Services, shall provide detailed infor-
23 mation to such volunteer or trainee on options for health
24 care after termination other than health care provided by
25 the Peace Corps, including—

1 “(A) where additional, detailed information, in-
2 cluding on the application process and eligibility re-
3 quirements for medical assistance through State
4 plans under title XIX of the Social Security Act (or
5 waiver of State plans), may be obtained, including
6 through external health care ‘navigators’ or health
7 care option identification services available within
8 the public and private sectors;

9 “(B) where detailed information on qualified
10 health plans may be obtained, including through ex-
11 ternal health care ‘navigators’ or health care option
12 identification services available within the public and
13 private sectors; and

14 “(C) if such volunteer or trainee is 25 years of
15 age or younger, detailed information regarding the
16 eligibility of such volunteer or trainee to enroll as a
17 dependent child in a group health plan or health in-
18 surance coverage in which the parent of such volun-
19 teer or trainee is enrolled if such plan or coverage
20 offers such dependent coverage.”.

21 **SEC. 5. ACCESS TO ANTIMALARIAL DRUGS AND MEN-**
22 **STRUAL PRODUCTS FOR PEACE CORPS VOL-**
23 **UNTEERS.**

24 Section 5A of the Peace Corps Act (22 U.S.C. 2504a)
25 is amended—

1 (1) by striking subsections (c) and (e);

2 (2) by redesignating subsection (d) as sub-
3 section (e);

4 (3) by inserting after subsection (b) the fol-
5 lowing new subsections:

6 “(c) ANTIMALARIAL DRUGS.—

7 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Director of the Peace
8 Corps shall consult with experts at the Centers for
9 Disease Control and Prevention regarding rec-
10 ommendations for prescribing malaria prophylaxis,
11 and implement such recommendations to the extent
12 practicable, in order to provide the best standard of
13 care within the context of the Peace Corps environ-
14 ment.

15 “(2) CERTAIN TRAINING.—The Director of the
16 Peace Corps shall ensure that each Peace Corps
17 medical officer serving in a malaria-endemic country
18 receives training in the recognition of the side effects
19 of such medications.

20 “(d) ACCESS TO MENSTRUAL PRODUCTS.—

21 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days
22 after the date of the enactment of this subsection,
23 the Director of the Peace Corps shall establish a
24 comprehensive policy to ensure Peace Corps volun-

1 teers who require menstrual products are able to ac-
2 cess such products by—

3 “(A) increasing stipends for such volun-
4 teers to purchase such products; or

5 “(B) providing such volunteers with such
6 products in the generic product types selected
7 by such volunteer, if available in the country of
8 service.

9 “(2) CONSIDERATION.—The policy required
10 under paragraph (1) shall take into consideration
11 the availability for purchase locally of menstrual
12 products, the price of such products, and cultural
13 norms regarding menstruation.

14 “(3) COST.—If stipends are increased pursuant
15 to the policy required under paragraph (1), the Di-
16 rector of the Peace Corps shall ensure that such in-
17 crease is sufficient to cover the average cost within
18 the country of service of menstrual products re-
19 quired by volunteers.”; and

20 (4) in paragraph (1)(A) of subsection (e), as so
21 redesignated, by inserting “, patient confidentiality
22 standards” before “, and guidelines”.

23 **SEC. 6. CODIFICATION OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 11103.**

24 The Peace Corps Act is amended by inserting after
25 section 5A (22 U.S.C. 2504a) the following new section:

1 **“SEC. 5B. CODIFICATION OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 11103.**

2 “(a) Executive Order 11103 (22 U.S.C. 2504 note;
3 28 Fed. Reg. 3571; relating to Providing for the Appoint-
4 ment of Former Peace Corps Volunteers to the Civilian
5 Career Services), as amended by Executive Order 12107
6 (44 Fed. Reg. 1055; relating to the Civil Service Commis-
7 sion and Labor-Management in the Federal Service), as
8 in effect on the day before the date of the enactment of
9 this section, shall remain in effect and have the full force
10 and effect of law, consistent with subsection (b).

11 “(b)(1) The period of eligibility for noncompetitive
12 appointment to the civil service provided to an individual
13 by operation of subsection (a), including any individual
14 who is so eligible on the date of the enactment of this
15 section, shall be extended by the total number of days
16 that, during such period—

17 “(A) a hiring freeze for civilian employees of
18 the Executive branch is in effect by order of the
19 President with respect to any Executive agency at
20 which the individual has applied for employment;

21 “(B) there is a lapse in appropriations with re-
22 spect to any Executive agency at which the indi-
23 vidual has applied for employment; or

24 “(C) the individual is receiving disability com-
25 pensation under section 8142 of title 5, United
26 States Code, based on their service as a Peace Corps

1 volunteer, retroactive to the date the individual ap-
2 plied for such compensation.

3 “(2) The period of eligibility for noncompetitive ap-
4 pointment status to the civil service by operation of sub-
5 section (a) shall apply to a Peace Corps volunteer—

6 “(A) whose service ended involuntarily as the
7 result of a suspension of volunteer operations by the
8 Director of the Peace Corps, but shall not last
9 longer than 12 months from the date on which such
10 service ended involuntarily; or

11 “(B) who re-enrolls as a volunteer in the Peace
12 Corps after completion of a term of service.

13 “(3) In this subsection:

14 “(A) The term ‘hiring freeze’ means any memo-
15 randum, Executive order, or other action by the
16 President that prohibits an Executive agency from
17 filling vacant Federal civilian employee positions or
18 creating new such positions.

19 “(B) The term ‘Executive agency’ has the
20 meaning given that term in section 105 of title 5,
21 United States Code, and includes the United States
22 Postal Service and the Postal Regulatory Commis-
23 sion, but does not include the Government Account-
24 ability Office.

1 “(c) Subject to subsection (b), Executive Order
2 11103 (22 U.S.C. 2504 note; 28 Fed. Reg. 3571; relating
3 to Providing for the Appointment of Former Peace Corps
4 Volunteers to the Civilian Career Services), as amended
5 by Executive Order 12107 (44 Fed. Reg. 1055; relating
6 to the Civil Service Commission and Labor-Management
7 in the Federal Service), as in effect on the day before the
8 date of the enactment of this section, shall, except as set
9 forth herein, remain in effect and have the full force and
10 effect of law. In the event of a conflict between the lan-
11 guage herein and Executive Order 11103, the language
12 herein shall prevail.

13 “(d) Any volunteer whose service terminated after
14 January 1, 2020, and who has been certified by the Direc-
15 tor as having served satisfactorily as a volunteer under
16 the Act may, for two years after their separation from the
17 Peace Corps, be appointed to a position in any United
18 States department, agency, or establishment in the com-
19 petitive service under title 5, United States Code without
20 competitive examination and in accordance with such reg-
21 ulations and conditions consistent with this subsection as
22 may be prescribed by the Director of the Office of Per-
23 sonnel Management.”.

1 **SEC. 7. VOLUNTEERS PROVIDING VIRTUAL SERVICES FOR**
2 **THE PEACE CORPS.**

3 The Peace Corps Act is amended by inserting after
4 section 5B, as added by section 6 of this Act, the following
5 new section:

6 **“SEC. 5C. VOLUNTEERS PROVIDING VIRTUAL SERVICES**
7 **FOR THE PEACE CORPS.**

8 “(a) DECLARATION OF POLICY.—Congress declares
9 that the Peace Corps has a demonstrated ability to deliver
10 information, training, and technical assistance virtually
11 through the internet and other electronic means to com-
12 munities abroad.

13 “(b) AUTHORITY.—The Director of the Peace Corps
14 is authorized to recruit individuals, who may be located
15 within the United States or third countries, to provide
16 services virtually by electronic means to communities in
17 host countries to flexibly meet the expressed needs of those
18 countries.

19 “(c) ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS.—The Director of
20 the Peace Corps—

21 “(1) may recruit, train, and accept, on such
22 terms and conditions as the Director may determine
23 necessary or appropriate, the services of individuals,
24 especially those individuals who face barriers to serv-
25 ing physically in a host country, who shall serve on
26 a part-time basis as virtual service volunteers to

1 meet the expressed needs of host countries, such as
 2 information, training, and technical assistance,
 3 through the internet or other electronic or virtual
 4 means; and

5 “(2) may provide for incidental expenses of
 6 such individuals, as determined by the Director to be
 7 appropriate for the nature of the assignments.

8 “(d) INDIVIDUALS NOT TO BE CONSIDERED VOLUN-
 9 TEERS.—An individual who provides services under the
 10 authority of this section shall not be considered to be a
 11 volunteer for purposes of section 5 unless the Director of
 12 the Peace Corps requires the individual to physically serve
 13 in the host country on a temporary basis.

14 “(e) INDIVIDUALS NOT TO BE CONSIDERED FED-
 15 ERAL EMPLOYEES.—An individual who provides services
 16 under the authority of this section shall not be considered
 17 a Federal employee except for the purposes described in
 18 section 5(h).”.

19 **SEC. 8. PROTECTION OF PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEERS**
 20 **AGAINST REPRISAL OR RETALIATION.**

21 Section 8G of the Peace Corps Act (22 U.S.C. 2507g)
 22 is amended by adding at the end the following new sub-
 23 section:

24 “(d) PROHIBITION AGAINST REPRISAL OR RETALIA-
 25 TION.—

1 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Director of the Peace
2 Corps shall take all reasonable measures, including
3 through the development and implementation of a
4 comprehensive policy, to prevent and address re-
5 prisal or retaliation against a volunteer by any Peace
6 Corps officer or employee, or any other person with
7 supervisory authority over the volunteer during the
8 volunteer’s period of service.

9 “(2) REPORTING AND INVESTIGATION; RE-
10 LIEF.—

11 “(A) IN GENERAL.—A volunteer may re-
12 port a complaint or allegation of reprisal or re-
13 taliation—

14 “(i) directly to the Inspector General
15 of the Peace Corps, and the Inspector Gen-
16 eral may conduct such investigations and
17 make such recommendations with respect
18 to the complaint or allegation as the In-
19 spector General considers appropriate; and

20 “(ii) through other channels provided
21 by the Peace Corps, including through the
22 process for confidential reporting required
23 in subsection (a).

24 “(B) RELIEF.—The Director of the Peace
25 Corps—

1 “(i) may order any relief for an af-
2 firmative finding of a proposed or final res-
3 olution of a complaint or allegation of re-
4 prisal or retaliation in accordance with
5 policies, rules, and procedures of the Peace
6 Corps; and

7 “(ii) shall ensure such relief is
8 promptly provided to the volunteer.

9 “(3) APPEAL.—

10 “(A) IN GENERAL.—A volunteer may ap-
11 peal to the Director of the Peace Corps any
12 proposed or final resolution of a complaint or
13 allegation of reprisal or retaliation.

14 “(B) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing
15 in this paragraph may be construed to affect
16 any other right of recourse a volunteer may
17 have under any other provision of law.

18 “(4) NOTIFICATION OF RIGHTS AND REM-
19 EDIES.—The Director of the Peace Corps shall en-
20 sure that volunteers are informed in writing of the
21 rights and remedies provided under this section.

22 “(5) DISPUTE MEDIATION.—The Director of
23 the Peace Corps shall offer the opportunity for vol-
24 unteers to resolve disputes concerning a complaint
25 or allegation of reprisal or retaliation through medi-

1 ation in accordance with procedures developed by the
2 Peace Corps.

3 “(6) STAFF MEMBER AND VOLUNTEER CO-
4 OPERATION.—The Director of the Peace Corps may
5 take such disciplinary or other administrative action,
6 including termination of service or finding of ineligi-
7 bility for re-employment or reinstatement, with re-
8 spect to a staff member or volunteer who unreason-
9 ably refuses to cooperate with an investigation con-
10 ducted by the Inspector General of the Peace Corps
11 into a complaint or allegation of reprisal or retalia-
12 tion.

13 “(7) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

14 “(A) REPRISAL OR RETALIATION.—The
15 term ‘reprisal or retaliation’ means taking,
16 threatening to take, or initiating adverse ad-
17 ministrative action against a volunteer because
18 the volunteer made a report pursuant to sub-
19 section (a) or otherwise disclosed to a covered
20 official or office any information pertaining to
21 waste, fraud, abuse of authority, misconduct,
22 mismanagement, violations of law, or a signifi-
23 cant threat to health and safety, whenever the
24 activity or occurrence complained of is based

1 upon the reasonable belief of the volunteer that
2 it has taken place.

3 “(B) COVERED OFFICIAL OR OFFICE.—

4 The term ‘covered official or office’ means any
5 of the following:

6 “(i) Any Peace Corps employee, in-
7 cluding an employee of the Office of In-
8 spector General.

9 “(ii) A Member of Congress or a rep-
10 resentative of a committee of Congress.

11 “(iii) An Inspector General (other
12 than the Peace Corps Inspector General).

13 “(iv) The Government Accountability
14 Office.

15 “(v) An authorized official of the De-
16 partment of Justice or other law enforce-
17 ment agency.

18 “(vi) A United States court or grand
19 jury.”.

20 **SEC. 9. COMPREHENSIVE ILLEGAL DRUG USE POLICY WITH**
21 **RESPECT TO PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEERS.**

22 The Peace Corps Act is amended by inserting after
23 section 8I (22 U.S.C. 2507i) the following new section:

1 **“SEC. 8J. COMPREHENSIVE ILLEGAL DRUG USE POLICY**
2 **WITH RESPECT TO PEACE CORPS VOLUN-**
3 **TEERS.**

4 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Director shall develop and
5 implement a comprehensive drug use policy with respect
6 to Peace Corps volunteers. Such policy shall—

7 “(1) establish a zero tolerance policy regarding
8 volunteer or trainee involvement with illegal drugs;
9 and

10 “(2) require that every case of volunteer or
11 trainee illegal drug involvement be brought imme-
12 diately to the attention of relevant Peace Corps lead-
13 ership, including the Director, and be reported expe-
14 ditiously by the Peace Corps to the Office of the In-
15 spector General.

16 “(b) CONSULTATION.—In developing the policy de-
17 scribed in subsection (a), the Director may consult with
18 and incorporate, as appropriate, the recommendations and
19 views of experts in the field of substance abuse, and shall
20 consult with the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the
21 House of Representatives and the Committee on Foreign
22 Relations of the Senate.

23 “(c) REPORT.—Not later than one year after the date
24 of the enactment of this Act, the Director shall submit
25 to the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Rep-
26 resentatives and the Committee on Foreign Relations of

1 the Senate a report on the illegal drug use policy required
2 to be developed and implemented under this section.”.

3 **SEC. 10. PEACE CORPS NATIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL.**

4 Section 12 of the Peace Corps Act (22 U.S.C. 2511)
5 is amended—

6 (1) in subsection (b)—

7 (A) in paragraph (1), by striking “the
8 President and”;

9 (B) in paragraph (2)—

10 (i) in the matter preceding subpara-
11 graph (A), by striking “conduct on-site in-
12 spections, and make examinations, of the
13 activities of the Peace Corps in the United
14 States and in other countries in order to”;

15 (ii) in subparagraph (C)—

16 (I) by striking “the President,
17 the Director of the Peace Corps, and,
18 as the Council considers appropriate,
19 the Congress,” and inserting “the Di-
20 rector and, as the Council considers
21 appropriate, the Congress”; and

22 (II) by striking “and” after the
23 semicolon at the end;

24 (iii) by redesignating subparagraph
25 (D) as subparagraph (G); and

1 (iv) by inserting after subparagraph
2 (C) the following new subparagraphs:

3 “(D) make recommendations for utilizing
4 the expertise of returned Peace Corps volun-
5 teers in fulfilling the goals of the Peace Corps;

6 “(E) make recommendations for increasing
7 recruitment of volunteers from diverse back-
8 grounds and better supporting such volunteers
9 during their training and enrollment in the
10 Peace Corps;

11 “(F) make recommendations to reduce any
12 financial barriers to application, training, or en-
13 rollment in the Peace Corps, including a volun-
14 teer’s medical expenses and other out-of-pocket
15 costs; and”;

16 (2) in subsection (c)—

17 (A) in paragraph (2)—

18 (i) in subparagraph (A)—

19 (I) in the first sentence—

20 (aa) by striking “fifteen”
21 and inserting “seven”; and

22 (bb) by striking “the Presi-
23 dent, by and with the advice and
24 consent of the Senate” and in-

1 serting “the Director of the
2 Peace Corps”; and

3 (II) by striking the second sen-
4 tence and inserting the following new
5 sentence: “At least four of such mem-
6 bers shall be returned Peace Corps
7 volunteers, and not more than four of
8 such members may be members of the
9 same political party.”;

10 (ii) by amending subparagraph (C) to
11 read as follows:

12 “(C) No member of the Council appointed under this
13 paragraph may be an officer or employee of the Peace
14 Corps.”;

15 (iii) by amending subparagraph (D) to
16 read as follows:

17 “(D) The members of the Council shall be appointed
18 to 2-year terms.”; and

19 (iv) by striking subparagraphs (E),
20 (F), (G), (H), and (I); and

21 (B) by amending paragraph (3) to read as
22 follows:

23 “(3) The Director of the Peace Corps shall designate
24 one of the members of the Council as Chair, who shall
25 serve in such capacity for a term of two years.”;

1 (3) in subsection (d)(1)(B), by striking “his or
2 her” and inserting “the member’s”;

3 (4) in subsection (g)—

4 (A) in the first sentence, by striking “At
5 its first meeting and at its first regular meeting
6 in each calendar year thereafter” and inserting
7 “At its first meeting each calendar year”; and

8 (B) in the second sentence, by inserting
9 before the period at the end the following: “,
10 and each shall serve in that capacity for a term
11 of two years. The Director of the Peace Corps
12 may renew, not more than once per member,
13 the term of a voting member appointed as
14 Chair of the Council under the preceding sen-
15 tence”;

16 (5) in subsection (h)(1), by striking “The Coun-
17 cil” and all that follows through the period at the
18 end and inserting the following: “The Council shall
19 hold a regular meeting during each calendar quarter
20 at a date and time to be determined by the Chair
21 of the Council or at the call of the Director of the
22 Peace Corps.”;

23 (6) in subsection (i)—

1 (A) by striking “the President and” (in-
 2 cluding in the subsection heading) each place
 3 such term appears;

4 (B) by striking “the President shall” and
 5 inserting “the Director shall”; and

6 (C) by striking “the President or”; and

7 (7) by adding at the end the following new sub-
 8 sections:

9 “(k) INDEPENDENCE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL.—
 10 None of the activities or functions of the Council under
 11 subsection (b)(2) may undermine the independence or su-
 12 persede the duties of the Inspector General of the Peace
 13 Corps.

14 “(l) NONAPPLICABILITY OF FACA.—The Federal
 15 Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.) shall not apply
 16 to the Council.

17 “(m) FUNDING OF THE COUNCIL.—The Council shall
 18 be fully funded from amounts made available to the Peace
 19 Corps to carry out this Act.”.

20 **SEC. 11. PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEERS SERVING WITHIN THE**
 21 **UNITED STATES AT THE REQUEST OF AN-**
 22 **OTHER AGENCY.**

23 (a) DECLARATION OF POLICY.—Congress declares
 24 that the Peace Corps provided emergency disaster relief
 25 in response to Hurricane Katrina in 2006 and provided

1 COVID–19 relief in 2021 at the request of the Federal
2 Emergency Management Agency and therefore it is the
3 policy of the United States that the Peace Corps be au-
4 thorized to recruit volunteers to serve within the United
5 States at the request of another agency.

6 (b) RECRUITMENT OF DOMESTIC VOLUNTEERS.—
7 The Peace Corps Act is amended by inserting after section
8 14 (22 U.S.C. 2513) the following new section:

9 **“SEC. 14A. PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEERS SERVING WITHIN**
10 **THE UNITED STATES AT THE REQUEST OF**
11 **ANOTHER AGENCY.**

12 “The Director may recruit, train, and accept, for lim-
13 ited periods of time, on such terms and conditions as the
14 Director may determine necessary or appropriate, the
15 services of individuals who are not then serving outside
16 the United States as volunteers or trainees (unless such
17 appointment is made with the consent of the volunteer or
18 trainee serving outside the United States as an extension
19 of such service), who shall serve without compensation as
20 domestic volunteers within the United States to provide
21 assistance at the request of any Federal Government agen-
22 cy with authority to do so. Such service within the United
23 States may be initiated by the Director following the re-
24 quest from the other agency and a determination by the
25 Director that such action is in the best interests of the

1 United States and the Peace Corps. Domestic volunteers
 2 shall not be considered volunteers under section 5 and
 3 shall not be deemed a Federal employee except for the pur-
 4 poses described in section 5(h). The Director may provide
 5 for incidental expenses of domestic volunteers, as deter-
 6 mined by the Director to be appropriate for the nature
 7 of the assignments.”.

8 **SEC. 12. USE OF OFFICIAL SEAL, EMBLEM, AND NAME OF**
 9 **THE PEACE CORPS.**

10 Section 19 of the Peace Corps Act (22 U.S.C. 2518)
 11 is amended—

12 (1) in subsection (a)—

13 (A) by striking “The President” and in-
 14 serting “The Director of the Peace Corps”; and

15 (B) by striking “he” and inserting “the
 16 Director”; and

17 (2) in subsection (b)—

18 (A) in paragraph (1), by inserting before
 19 the period at the end the following: “, except
 20 that the official seal or emblem and the name
 21 ‘Peace Corps’ may be used on any death an-
 22 nouncement, gravestone, plaque, or other grave
 23 marker of any person who served as a volunteer
 24 or as an officer or employee of the Peace Corps

1 under such rules as may be prescribed by the
2 Director”; and

3 (B) in paragraph (2), in the first sentence,
4 by inserting “or in accordance with the excep-
5 tion specified in paragraph (1),” before “shall
6 be fined”.

7 **SEC. 13. CLARIFICATION REGARDING ELIGIBILITY OF**
8 **UNITED STATES NATIONALS.**

9 The Peace Corps Act (22 U.S.C. 2501 et seq.) is
10 amended—

11 (1) in section 7(a)(5), by striking “United
12 States citizens” each place such term appears and
13 inserting “nationals of the United States”;

14 (2) in section 8(b), by striking “citizens” and
15 inserting “nationals”;

16 (3) in section 10(b), by striking “citizen or resi-
17 dent” and inserting “national”;

18 (4) in section 12(g), by striking “citizens” and
19 inserting “nationals”; and

20 (5) in section 26—

21 (A) by redesignating paragraphs (5)
22 through (8) as paragraphs (6) through (9), re-
23 spectively; and

24 (B) by inserting after paragraph (4) the
25 following new paragraph:

1 “(5) The term ‘national of the United States’
2 has the meaning given such term in section
3 101(a)(22) of the Immigration and Nationality Act
4 (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(22)).”.

5 **SEC. 14. MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT WITH BUREAU OF**
6 **DIPLOMATIC SECURITY OF THE DEPART-**
7 **MENT OF STATE.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the
9 date of the enactment of this Act, and at least once every
10 five years thereafter, the Director of the Peace Corps, in
11 coordination with the Assistant Secretary of State for Dip-
12 lomatic Security, shall review the Memorandum of Agree-
13 ment between the Bureau of Diplomatic Security of the
14 Department of State and the Peace Corps relating to secu-
15 rity support and protection of Peace Corps volunteers and
16 staff members abroad and update such Memorandum of
17 Agreement, as appropriate.

18 (b) NOTIFICATION.—

19 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Director of the Peace
20 Corps and the Assistant Secretary of State for Dip-
21 lomatic Security shall jointly submit to the Com-
22 mittee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Rep-
23 resentatives and the Committee on Foreign Rela-
24 tions of the Senate a written notification relating to

1 an update to the Memorandum of Agreement made
2 pursuant to subsection (a).

3 (2) TIMING OF NOTIFICATION.—A written noti-
4 fication submitted pursuant to paragraph (1) shall
5 be submitted not later than 30 days before the up-
6 date referred to in such paragraph shall take effect.

7 **SEC. 15. REPORTS TO CONGRESS.**

8 (a) AMENDMENTS.—The Peace Corps Act is amend-
9 ed—

10 (1) in section 8E (22 U.S.C. 2507e)—

11 (A) by striking “President” and inserting
12 “Director” each place it appears;

13 (B) in subsection (c), by striking “Sep-
14 tember 30, 2023” and inserting “September 30,
15 2025”; and

16 (C) in subsection (d)(1)(A), by striking
17 “September 30, 2018” and inserting “Sep-
18 tember 30, 2025”; and

19 (2) in section 8I (22 U.S.C. 2507i)—

20 (A) in subsection (a), by striking “Sep-
21 tember 30, 2018” and inserting “September 30,
22 2025”; and

23 (B) in subsection (c), by striking “Presi-
24 dent” each place it appears and inserting “Di-
25 rector”.

1 (b) GAO REPORT.—

2 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than one year
3 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the
4 Comptroller General of the United States shall sub-
5 mit to the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the
6 House of Representatives and the Committee on
7 Foreign Relations of the Senate a report relating to
8 the post-service health care delivery and insurance
9 coverage pursuant to subsection (d) of section 5 of
10 the Peace Corps Act (22 U.S.C. 2504), as amended
11 by section 4 of this Act, and section 8B of the Peace
12 Corps Act (22 U.S.C. 2507b).

13 (2) ELEMENTS.—The report required by para-
14 graph (1) shall include the following:

15 (A) Information relating to examinations,
16 counseling, and other mental health care serv-
17 ices provided by the Peace Corps to returned
18 volunteers in the six months following the end
19 of the term of service of such volunteers.

20 (B) Recommendations relating to—

21 (i) better protection of patient con-
22 fidentiality for returned Peace Corps vol-
23 unteers for mental health care services;

1 (ii) improved access to mental health
2 providers that will accept payment from
3 the Peace Corps; and

4 (iii) whether such mental health care
5 services for returned volunteers would be
6 better provided under the Short-term
7 Health Insurance For Transition and
8 Travel (SHIFTT) plan or a similar com-
9 mercially available insurance plan to be
10 paid for by the Peace Corps.

11 (c) REPORT ON MENTAL HEALTH EVALUATION
12 STANDARDS.—Not later than one year after the date of
13 the enactment of this Act, the Director of the Peace Corps
14 shall submit to the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the
15 House of Representatives and the Committee on Foreign
16 Relations of the Senate a report on the guidelines and
17 standards used to evaluate the mental health of Peace
18 Corps applicants prior to service. Such report shall in-
19 clude—

20 (1) a detailed description of mental health
21 screening guidelines and evaluation standards used
22 by the Peace Corps to determine medical eligibility
23 of applicants for service, including a description of
24 the most common mental health conditions of appli-
25 cants;

1 (2) specific standards in the mental health
2 screening process that could lead to an applicant's
3 disqualification from service, and a description of
4 how these determinations are made;

5 (3) a description of any expedited mental health
6 clearance process for severe or recent symptom pres-
7 entation;

8 (4) a description of periods of stability related
9 to certain mental health conditions and symptoms
10 recommended prior to an applicant's clearance to
11 serve;

12 (5) an assessment of the impact of updated
13 mental health evaluation guidance, including a com-
14 parison of mental health related volunteer medevacs
15 in years before and after updated guidelines were
16 implemented; and

17 (6) a review of these screening guidelines, con-
18 ducted by a panel of certified and qualified medical
19 professionals in the United States, that evaluates
20 these standards based on scientific evidence and
21 mental health research and proposes relevant up-
22 dates or additions to current guidance.

23 (d) REPORT ON VOLUNTEER MEDICAL EVACU-
24 ATIONS.—Not later than the first May 1 occurring after
25 the date of the enactment of this Act and annually there-

1 after for five years, the Director of the Peace Corps shall
2 submit to the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House
3 of Representatives and the Committee on Foreign Rela-
4 tions of the Senate a report on volunteer medical and men-
5 tal health evacuations. Such report shall include—

6 (1) the number of Peace Corps volunteer med-
7 ical and mental health evacuations during the pre-
8 vious year;

9 (2) a breakdown of these evacuations into med-
10 ical and mental health evacuation categories; and

11 (3) the estimated cost of these evacuations for
12 each year, including a breakdown of costs between
13 medical and mental health evacuation categories.

14 (e) REPORT AND EXTENSION OF THE SEXUAL AS-
15 SAULT ADVISORY COUNCIL.—Section 8D of the Peace
16 Corps Act (22 U.S.C. 2507d) is amended—

17 (1) by amending subsection (d) to read as fol-
18 lows:

19 “(d) REPORTS.—On an annual basis for the duration
20 of its mandate, the Council shall submit to the Director,
21 the Committee on Foreign Relations and the Committee
22 on Appropriations of the Senate, and the Committee on
23 Foreign Affairs and the Committee on Appropriations of
24 the House of Representatives a report on its findings
25 based on the reviews conducted pursuant to subsection (c)

1 and shall include relevant recommendations. Such reports
 2 shall be made publicly available.”; and

3 (2) in subsection (g), by striking “October 1,
 4 2023” and inserting “October 1, 2025”.

5 (f) REPORT ON PACIFIC ISLANDS REGION.—Not
 6 later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of
 7 this Act, the Director of the Peace Corps shall submit to
 8 the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Rep-
 9 resentatives and the Committee on Foreign Relations of
 10 the Senate a report on—

11 (1) the presence of the Peace Corps in the Pa-
 12 cific Islands region; and

13 (2) a strategy to expand such presence, as prac-
 14 ticable, including—

15 (A) outcomes of consultations with regional
 16 allies and partners on areas in which coopera-
 17 tion can reduce factors limiting Peace Corps ex-
 18 pansion; and

19 (B) timelines for expanding and reopening
 20 country programs in the Pacific Islands region.

21 **SEC. 16. WORKERS COMPENSATION FOR PEACE CORPS**
 22 **VOLUNTEERS.**

23 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 8142 of title 5, United
 24 States Code, is amended—

25 (1) in subsection (c)—

1 (A) in paragraph (1), by striking “GS–7”
 2 and inserting “GS–7, step 5”;
 3 (B) by striking paragraph (2); and
 4 (C) by redesignating paragraphs (3) and
 5 (4) as paragraphs (2) and (3), respectively; and
 6 (2) in subsection (d)(1), by striking “subsection
 7 (c)(3)” and inserting “subsection (c)(2)”.

8 (b) APPLICATION.—The amendment made by sub-
 9 section (a)(1)(A) shall apply to any volunteer (as that
 10 term is defined in subsection (a) of section 8142 of title
 11 5, United States Code) with respect to whom benefits
 12 under chapter 81 of such title commence, by operation of
 13 such section, on or after the date of the enactment of this
 14 Act.

15 **SEC. 17. TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING EDITS.**

16 The Peace Corps Act (22 U.S.C. 2501 et seq.) is
 17 amended—

18 (1) by amending section 1 to read as follows:

19 **“SEC. 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

20 “(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the
 21 ‘Peace Corps Act’.

22 “(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents
 23 for this Act is as follows:

“TITLE I—THE PEACE CORPS

“Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

“Sec. 2. Declaration of purpose.

“Sec. 2A. Peace Corps as an independent agency.

- “Sec. 3. Authorization.
- “Sec. 4. Director of the Peace Corps and delegation of functions.
- “Sec. 5. Peace Corps volunteers.
- “Sec. 5A. Health care for volunteers at Peace Corps posts.
- “Sec. 5B. Codification of Executive Order 11103.
- “Sec. 5C. Volunteers providing virtual services for the Peace Corps.
- “Sec. 6. Peace Corps volunteer leaders.
- “Sec. 7. Peace Corps employees.
- “Sec. 8. Volunteer training.
- “Sec. 8A. Sexual assault risk-reduction and response training.
- “Sec. 8B. Sexual assault policy.
- “Sec. 8C. Office of victim advocacy.
- “Sec. 8D. Establishment of sexual assault advisory council.
- “Sec. 8E. Volunteer feedback and Peace Corps review.
- “Sec. 8F. Establishment of a policy on stalking.
- “Sec. 8G. Establishment of a confidentiality protection policy.
- “Sec. 8H. Removal and assessment and evaluation.
- “Sec. 8I. Reporting requirements.
- “Sec. 8J. Comprehensive illegal drug use policy with respect to Peace Corps volunteers.
- “Sec. 9. Participation of foreign nationals.
- “Sec. 10. General powers and authorities.
- “Sec. 11. Reports.
- “Sec. 12. Peace Corps National Advisory Council.
- “Sec. 13. Experts and consultants.
- “Sec. 14. Detail of personnel to foreign governments and international organizations.
- “Sec. 14A. Peace corps volunteers serving within the United States at the request of another agency.
- “Sec. 15. Utilization of funds.
- “Sec. 16. Foreign currency fluctuations account.
- “Sec. 17. Use of foreign currencies.
- “Sec. 18. Activities promoting Americans’ understanding of other peoples.
- “Sec. 19. Exclusive right to seal and name.
- “Sec. 20. [Reserved.]
- “Sec. 21. [Reserved.]
- “Sec. 22. Security investigations.
- “Sec. 23. Universal military training and service act.
- “Sec. 24. Foreign language proficiency act.
- “Sec. 25. Nonpartisan appointments.
- “Sec. 26. Definitions.
- “Sec. 27. Construction.
- “Sec. 28. Effective date.

“TITLE II—AMENDMENT OF INTERNAL REVENUE CODE AND
SOCIAL SECURITY ACT

- “Sec. 201. [Reserved.]
- “Sec. 202. [Reserved.]

“TITLE III—ENCOURAGEMENT OF VOLUNTARY SERVICE
PROGRAMS

- “Sec. 301. Voluntary Service Programs.”;

1 (2) in subsection (a) of section 2—

1 (A) by striking “men and women” and in-
2 serting “individuals”;

3 (B) by striking “help the peoples” and in-
4 serting “partner with the peoples”; and

5 (C) by striking “trained manpower” and
6 inserting “trained individuals”;

7 (3) in subsection (e) of section 3 (as so redesign-
8 nated by section 2 of this Act), by striking “disabled
9 people” and inserting “people with disabilities” each
10 place it appears;

11 (4) in subsection (b) of section 4—

12 (A) by striking “him” and inserting “the
13 President”;

14 (B) by striking “he” and inserting “the
15 Director”; and

16 (C) by striking “of his subordinates” and
17 all that follows through “functions.” and insert-
18 ing “subordinate of the Director the authority
19 to perform any such functions.”;

20 (5) in section 7—

21 (A) in subsection (a), by moving the mar-
22 gins of paragraphs (7) and (8) two ems to the
23 left;

1 (B) in the second sentence of subsection
2 (c), by striking “in his discretion” and inserting
3 “in the President’s discretion”; and

4 (C) by redesignating subsection (c) as sub-
5 section (b);

6 (6) in section 8A—

7 (A) in subsection (c), by striking “his or
8 her” and inserting “the volunteer’s”;

9 (B) in paragraph (2) of subsection (d), by
10 inserting “the” before “information”; and

11 (C) in subsection (f)—

12 (i) in subparagraph (A) of paragraph
13 (2), by striking “his or her” and inserting
14 “the volunteer’s” each place it appears;
15 and

16 (ii) in subparagraph (A) of paragraph
17 (4), by striking “his or her” and inserting
18 “that person’s”;

19 (7) in section 8C, in the heading of subsection
20 (a), by striking “VICTIMS” and inserting “VICTIM”;

21 (8) in section 8E—

22 (A) in subsection (b), by striking “sub-
23 section (c),” and inserting “subsection (c)”; and

24 (B) in subsection (e)(1)(F), by striking
25 “Corp’s” and inserting “Corps”;

1 (9) in section 9—

2 (A) by striking “Act proceedings” and in-
3 serting “Act. Removal proceedings”;

4 (B) by striking “under which he” and in-
5 serting “under which that person”; and

6 (C) by striking “for which he” and insert-
7 ing “for which that person”;

8 (10) in section 10—

9 (A) in subsection (b) (as amended by sec-
10 tion 13 of this Act), by striking “he” and in-
11 serting “the President”; and

12 (B) in subsection (d), by striking “section
13 3709” and all that follows through “1949” and
14 inserting “sections 3101(a), 3101(c), 3104,
15 3106, 3301(b)(2), and 6101 of title 41, United
16 States Code”;

17 (11) in section 14—

18 (A) in subsection (a), by striking “his”
19 after “of” and before “agency” and inserting
20 “that”; and

21 (B) in subsection (b)—

22 (i) by striking “preserving his” and
23 inserting “preserving the”; and

24 (ii) by striking “he” after “assigned,
25 and”;

1 (12) in section 15—

2 (A) in subsection (c), in the first sentence,
3 by striking “that Act” and inserting “such sub-
4 chapter”; and

5 (B) in subsection (d)(7), by striking “his
6 designee” and inserting “the Director’s des-
7 ignee”;

8 (13) in section 23, by striking “Universal Mili-
9 tary Training and Service Act” and inserting “Mili-
10 tary Selective Service Act (50 U.S.C. 3801 et seq.)”;

11 (14) in section 24, by striking—

12 (A) “his” and inserting “the volunteer’s”;
13 and

14 (B) “he” each place it appears and insert-
15 ing “the volunteer”;

16 (15) in section 26 (as amended by section 13
17 of this Act)—

18 (A) in paragraph (4), by striking “which
19 he or she” and inserting “which the medical of-
20 ficer”;

21 (B) by further redesignating paragraphs
22 (2) through (9) (as so redesignated by section
23 13) as paragraphs (3) through (10), respec-
24 tively;

1 (C) by inserting after paragraph (1) the
 2 following new paragraph:

3 “(2) The term ‘Director’ means the Director of
 4 the Peace Corps.”;

5 (D) in paragraph (7), as so redesignated,
 6 by striking “5(m)” and inserting “5(n)”; and

7 (E) in paragraph (10), as so redesign-
 8 nated—

9 (i) by redesignating clauses (i) and
 10 (ii) as subparagraphs (A) and (B), respec-
 11 tively, and moving such subparagraphs, as
 12 so redesignated, 2 ems to the left; and

13 (ii) in subparagraph (A), as so redes-
 14 igned, by striking “section 5(f)” and in-
 15 serting “section 5(e)”; and

16 (16) in section 301, by striking “Sec. 301. (a)
 17 The Congress” and inserting the following:

18 “VOLUNTARY SERVICE PROGRAMS

19 “SEC. 301.

20 “(a) The Congress”.

21 **SEC. 18. DETERMINATION OF BUDGETARY EFFECTS.**

22 The budgetary effects of this Act, for the purpose of
 23 complying with the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010,
 24 shall be determined by reference to the latest statement
 25 titled “Budgetary Effects of PAYGO Legislation” for this
 26 Act, submitted for printing in the Congressional Record

1 by the Chairman of the House Budget Committee, pro-
2 vided that such statement has been submitted prior to the
3 vote on passage.

Passed the House of Representatives September 19,
2022.

Attest:

Clerk.

117TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 1456

AN ACT

To amend the Peace Corps Act to reauthorize the Peace Corps, better support current and returned volunteers, and for other purposes.