

**H.R. 4435—FY15 NATIONAL DEFENSE
AUTHORIZATION BILL**

**SUBCOMMITTEE ON MILITARY
PERSONNEL**

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DIVISION A—DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE AUTHORIZATIONS

TITLE IV—MILITARY PERSONNEL AUTHORIZATIONS

LEGISLATIVE PROVISIONS

SUBTITLE A—ACTIVE FORCES

Section 401—End Strengths for Active Forces

This section would authorize the following end strengths for Active Duty personnel of the Armed Forces as of September 30, 2015:

Service	FY 2014	FY 2015		Change from	
	Authorized	Request	Committee Recommendation	FY 2015 Request	FY 2014 Athorization
Army	520,000	490,000	490,000	0	-30,000
Navy	323,600	323,600	323,600	0	0
USMC	190,200	184,100	184,100	0	-6,100
Air Force	327,600	310,900	310,900	0	-16,700
DOD	1,361,400	1,308,600	1,308,600	0	-52,800

Section 402—Revisions in Permanent Active Duty End Strength Minimum Levels

This section would establish new minimum Active Duty end strengths for the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, and Air Force as of September 30, 2015. The committee recommends 490,000 as the minimum Active Duty end strength for the Army, 323,600 as the minimum Active Duty end strength for the Navy, 184,100 as the minimum Active Duty end strength for the Marine Corps, and 310,900 as the minimum Active Duty end strength for the Air Force.

SUBTITLE B—RESERVE FORCES

Section 411—End Strengths for Selected Reserve

This section would authorize the following end strengths for Selected Reserve personnel, including the end strength for Reserves on Active Duty in support of the Reserves, as of September 30, 2015:

Service	FY 2014	FY 2015	Committee Recommendation	Change from	
	Authorized	Request		FY 2015 Request	FY 2014 Authorized
Army National Guard	354,200	350,200	350,200	0	-4,000
Army Reserve	205,000	202,000	202,000	0	-3,000
Navy Reserve	59,100	57,300	57,300	0	-1,800
Marine Corps Reserve	39,600	39,200	39,200	0	-400
Air National Guard	105,400	105,000	105,000	0	-400
Air Force Reserve	70,400	67,100	67,100	0	-3,300
DOD Total	833,700	820,800	820,800	0	12,900
Coast Guard Reserve	9,000	7,000	7,000	0	-2,000

Section 412—End Strengths for Reserves on Active Duty in Support of the Reserves

This section would authorize the following end strengths for Reserves on Active Duty in support of the Reserves as of September 30, 2015:

Service	FY 2014	FY 2015	Committee Recommendation	Change from	
	Authorized	Request		FY 2015 Request	FY 2014 Authorized
Army National Guard	32,060	31,385	31,385	0	-675
Army Reserve	16,261	16,261	16,261	0	0
Naval Reserve	10,159	9,973	9,973	0	-186
Marine Corps Reserve	2,261	2,261	2,261	0	0
Air National Guard	14,734	14,704	14,704	0	-30
Air Force Reserve	2,911	2,830	2,830	0	-81
DOD Total	78,386	77,414	77,414	0	-972

Section 413—End Strengths for Military Technicians (Dual Status)

This section would authorize the following end strengths for military technicians (dual status) as of September 30, 2015:

Service	FY 2014	FY 2015		Change from	
	Authorized	Request	Committee Recommendation	FY 2015 Request	FY 2014 Authorized
Army National Guard	27,210	27,210	27,210	0	0
Army Reserve	8,395	7,895	7,895	0	-500
Air National Guard	21,875	21,792	21,792	0	-83
Air Force Reserve	10,429	9,789	9,789	0	-640
DOD Total	67,909	66,686	66,686	0	-1,223

Section 414—Fiscal Year 2015 Limitation on Number of Non-Dual Status Technicians

This section would establish the maximum end strengths for the Reserve Components of the Army and Air Force for non-dual status technicians as of September 30, 2015:

Service	FY 2014	FY 2015		Change from	
	Authorized	Request	Committee Recommendation	FY 2015 Request	FY 2014 Authorized
Army National Guard	1,600	1,600	1,600	0	0
Air National Guard	350	350	350	0	0
Army Reserve	595	595	595	0	0
Air Force Reserve	90	90	90	0	0
DOD Total	2,635	2,635	2,635	0	0

Section 415—Maximum Number of Reserve Personnel Authorized To Be on Active Duty for Operational Support

This section would authorize, as required by section 115(b) of title 10, United States Code, the maximum number of Reserve Component personnel who may be on Active Duty or full-time National Guard duty during fiscal year 2015 to provide operational support. The personnel authorized here do not count against the end strengths authorized by section 401 or section 412 of this Act unless the duration on Active Duty exceeds the limitations in section 115(b)(2) of title 10, United States Code.

Service	FY 2014	FY 2015		Change from	
	Authorized	Request	Committee Recommendation	FY 2015 Request	FY 2014 Authorized
Army National Guard	17,000	17,000	17,000	0	0
Army Reserve	13,000	13,000	13,000	0	0
Naval Reserve	6,200	6,200	6,200	0	0
Marine Corps Reserve	3,000	3,000	3,000	0	0
Air National Guard	16,000	16,000	16,000	0	0
Air Force Reserve	14,000	14,000	14,000	0	0
DOD Total	69,200	69,200	69,200	0	0

SUBTITLE C—AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS

Section 421—Military Personnel

This section would authorize appropriations for military personnel at the levels identified in the funding table in section 4401 of division D of this Act.

TITLE V—MILITARY PERSONNEL POLICY

LEGISLATIVE PROVISIONS

SUBTITLE A—OFFICER PERSONNEL POLICY GENERALLY

Section 501—Authority to Limit Consideration for Early Retirement by Selective Retirement Boards to Particular Warrant Officer Year Groups and Specialties

This section would provide the Secretaries of the military departments the authority to establish selection objectives for warrant officer specialties for Selective

Retirement Boards (SRBs) convened pursuant to section 581 of title 10, United States Code. This authority is necessary to enable the services to retain the very best warrant officers in each warrant officer specialty and not exacerbate the shortage of warrant officers in under-strength and low-density warrant officer specialties, as forces are drawn down during fiscal years 2014 through 2017.

Section 502—Relief from Limits on the Percentage of Officers Who May Be Recommended for Discharge during a Fiscal Year Using Enhanced Authority for Selective Early Discharges

This section would amend section 638a of title 10, United States Code, to give relief from limits on the percentage of officers who may be recommended for discharge during a fiscal year using enhanced authority for selective early discharges. This section would remove the limitation on the number of officers recommended for discharge in a given fiscal year in comparison to the number of officers discharged the preceding fiscal year. Currently, the number of regular officers recommended for discharge cannot exceed 70 percent of the number of officers discharged from Active Duty the preceding fiscal year.

Section 503—Repeal of Requirement for Submission to Congress of Annual Reports on Joint Officer Management and Promotion Policy Objectives for Joint Officers

This section would repeal section 667 and section 662(b) of title 10, United States Code, removing the requirement to submit an annual report to Congress concerning the Department of Defense Joint Officer Management Program.

Section 504—Options for Phase II of Joint Professional Military Education

This section would amend section 2154(a) of title 10, United States Code, to authorize a senior service level course of at least 10 months in duration designated and certified by the Secretary of Defense to award Joint Professional Military Education Level II credit.

Section 505—Required Consideration of Certain Elements of Command Climate in Performance Appraisals of Commanding Officers

This section would require a Secretary of a military department to include information regarding command climate with regard to allegations of sexual assault and the response to the victim of sexual assault by other members of the command on the performance appraisal of a commanding officer.

SUBTITLE B—RESERVE COMPONENT PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT

Section 511—Retention on the Reserve Active-Status List Following Nonselection for Promotion of Certain Health Professions Officers and First Lieutenants and Lieutenants (Junior Grade) Pursuing Baccalaureate Degrees

This section would amend section 14701 of title 10, United States Code, to permit certain first lieutenants of the Army, Air Force, and Marine Corps, and lieutenants (junior grade) of the Navy, who have twice failed for selection for promotion to the next higher grade to be considered for continuation on the reserve active-status list. Further, the proposal would require the Secretaries of the military departments to retain health care professionals who have twice failed for promotion to the next higher grade, but who have not completed any service commitment incurred as a result of their participation in a health professions stipend program under section 16201 of title 10, United States Code, known in the Army as the Specialized Training Assistance Program. These two changes will allow the services to selectively continue officers qualified in critically short specialties required to provide medical support to the combatant commands.

SUBTITLE C—GENERAL SERVICE AUTHORITIES

Section 521—Procedures for Judicial Review of Military Personnel Decisions Relating to Correction of Military Records

This section would establish procedures for judicial review for any final decision regarding records correction made under sections 1034(g) or (h) and section 1552 or 1554a of title 10, United States Code, by requiring the service member to exhaust administrative relief procedures before seeking judicial review for correction of military records or decisions granted by the boards for the correction of military records. Additionally, this section would require that service members be notified of their right to judicial review and of the statutory time limits associated with judicial review of correction board decisions.

Section 522—Additional Required Elements of Transition Assistance Program

This section would amend section 1144 of title 10, United States Code, by requiring any member who plans to use educational assistance entitlements under title 38 to receive instruction on an overview of those entitlements, courses in post-secondary education appropriate for the member and compatible with the member's goals, and how to finance the member's education. Implementation of this section would occur not later than April 1, 2016.

Section 523—Extension of Authority to Conduct Career Flexibility Programs

This section would extend the authority of the Secretary of a military department, until December 31, 2019, to carry out pilot programs under which officers and enlisted members of the Regular Component, under the jurisdiction of the Secretary concerned, may be inactivated from Active Duty in order to meet personal or professional needs and returned to Active Duty at the end of the period of inactivation.

Section 524—Provision of Information to Members of the Armed Forces on Privacy Rights Relating to Receipt of Mental Health Services

This section would require the Secretaries of the military departments to provide information regarding the privacy rights of a service member who is seeking and receiving mental health services. The Secretary would be required to provide this information to service members during initial and basic training, and to other members of the Armed Forces as determined by the Secretary of Defense.

SUBTITLE D—MILITARY JUSTICE, INCLUDING SEXUAL ASSAULT AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PREVENTION AND RESPONSE

Section 531—Improved Department of Defense Information Reporting and Collection of Domestic Violence Incidents Involving Members of the Armed Forces

This section would require the Secretary of Defense, within 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, to develop a comprehensive management plan to address deficiencies in the reporting of incidents of domestic violence involving members of the Armed Forces.

Section 532—Additional Duty for Judicial Proceedings Panel Regarding Use of Mental Health Records by Defense during Preliminary Hearing and Court-Martial Proceedings

This section would require the Judicial Proceedings Panel established under section 576 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2013 (Public Law 112-239) to review and assess the use of mental health records by the defense during preliminary hearings and court-martial proceedings under the Uniformed Code of Military Justice. The panel would also be required to review the use of mental health records in civilian legal proceedings.

Section 533—Applicability of Sexual Assault Prevention and Response and Related Military Justice Enhancements to Military Service Academies

This section would require the Secretary of the military department concerned to ensure the the provisions of title XVII of the National Defense

Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2014 (Public Law 113-66) apply to the United States Military Academy, the Naval Academy, the Air Force Academy, and the Coast Guard Academy.

SUBTITLE E—MILITARY FAMILY READINESS

Section 541—Earlier Determination of Dependent Status with Respect to Transitional Compensation for Dependents of Members Separated for Dependent Abuse

This section would provide for an earlier determination of dependent child status under section 1059(d)(4) of title 10, United States Code. Dependency would be determined as of the date the separation action is initiated, when a member is administratively separated for a dependent abuse offense. Under current law, an individual's status as a dependent child is determined as of the date the member is actually separated.

Section 542—Improved Consistency in Data Collection and Reporting in Armed Forces Suicide Prevention Efforts

This section would require the Secretary of Defense to prescribe a policy for a standard method of collecting, reporting, and assessing suicide data involving members of the Armed Forces and their dependents, including Reserve Components. The Secretary would be required, within 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, to submit the policy to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives.

Section 543—Protection of Child Custody Arrangements for Parents Who Are Members of the Armed Forces

This section would amend title II of the Service Members Civil Relief Act (50 U.S.C. app. 521) to require a court that issued a temporary custody order based solely on the deployment or anticipated deployment of a service member to reinstate the custody order that was in effect immediately preceding the temporary order, unless the court finds reinstatement is not in the best interest of the child. This section would also prohibit a court from using deployment or the possibility of deployment as the sole factor when determining the best interest of a child.

SUBTITLE F—EDUCATION AND TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

Section 551—Authorized Duration of Foreign and Cultural Exchange Activities at Military Service Academies

This section would amend sections 4345a, 6957b, and 9345a of title 10, United States Code, to allow attendance of foreign exchange personnel to the military service academies from 2 to 4 weeks.

SUBTITLE G—DEFENSE DEPENDENTS' EDUCATION

Section 561—Continuation of Authority to Assist Local Educational Agencies That Benefit Dependents of Members of the Armed Forces and Department of Defense Civilian Employees

This section would authorize \$25.0 million for the continuation of the Department of Defense (DOD) assistance to local educational agencies that are impacted by the enrollment of dependent children of military members and DOD civilian employees.

Section 562—Authority to Employ Non-United States Citizens as Teachers in Department of Defense Overseas Dependents' School System

This section would allow the Department of Defense to hire a local national who teaches a host nation language course in the Department of Defense Overseas School System, if a citizen of the United States is not available.

The committee believes that the Department of Defense should demonstrate the efforts undertaken to first find a United States citizen to teach the native language before hiring a non-United States citizen.

Section 563—Expansion of Functions of the Advisory Council on Dependents' Education to Include Domestic Dependent Elementary and Secondary Schools

This section would expand the functions of the Advisory Council on Dependents' Education to include the domestic dependent elementary and secondary schools of the Department of Defense within the continental United States, Puerto Rico, and Guam.

Section 564—Support for Efforts to Improve Academic Achievement and Transition of Military Dependent Students

This section would authorize the Secretary of Defense to provide grant assistance to non-profit organizations that provide services to improve the academic achievement of military dependent students, including those non-profit organizations whose programs focus on increasing the civic responsibility of

military dependent students and their understanding of the Federal Government through direct exposure to the Government.

Section 565—Amendments to the Impact Aid Improvement Act of 2012

This section would amend section 563(c) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2013 (Public Law 112-239), to extend, by 2 years, the effective date of the Impact Aid Improvement Act of 2012. In addition, this section would amend Public Law 112-239 by including a method to calculate the taxable value of eligible Federal property that is within the boundaries of two or more local educational agencies.

SUBTITLE H—DECORATIONS AND AWARDS

Section 571—Retroactive Award of Army Combat Action Badge

This section would authorize the Secretary of the Army to award the Army Combat Action Badge to a person who, while a member of the Army, participated in combat during which the person personally engaged, or was personally engaged by, the enemy at any time during the period beginning on December 7, 1941, and ending on September 18, 2001.

Section 572—Report on Navy Review, Findings, and Actions Pertaining to Medal of Honor Nomination of Marine Corps Sergeant Rafael Peralta

This section would require the Secretary of the Navy to submit a report on the Navy review, findings, and actions pertaining to the Medal of Honor nomination of Sergeant Rafael Peralta to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

SUBTITLE I—MISCELLANEOUS REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Section 581—Secretary of Defense Review and Report on Prevention of Suicide Among Members of United States Special Operations Forces

This section would require the Secretary of Defense, through the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness and the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Special Operations and Low Intensity Conflict, to conduct a review of Department of Defense efforts regarding suicide prevention among members of the Special Operations Forces and their dependents. The review would include the feasibility of the application of current Department of Defense suicide prevention policy guidelines and prevention programs to Special Operations Forces, current Armed Forces and U.S. Special Operations Command strategies to reduce suicides among members of the Special Operations Forces and their dependents, the

standards for responding to attempted or completed suicides, including guidance and training to assist commanders in addressing incidents of suicide, among other elements. The Secretary would be required to submit the report to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.

Section 582—Inspector General of the Department of Defense Review of Separation of Members of the Armed Forces Who Made Unrestricted Reports of Sexual Assault

This section would require the Inspector General of the Department of Defense to conduct a review to identify all members of the Armed Forces who, since January 1, 2002, were separated from the Armed Forces after making an unrestricted report of sexual assault. The review would seek to determine the circumstances of and the grounds for the separation and whether the separation was in retaliation or influenced by the unrestricted report. The Inspector General would then submit a report to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives concerning the results of the review within 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

Section 583—Comptroller General Report Regarding Management of Personnel Records of Members of the National Guard

This section would require the Comptroller General of the United States to submit a report regarding the management of personnel records of members of the National Guard. The Comptroller General should consider the appropriate Federal role and responsibility in the management of these records, the extent to which the States have digitized the records, and the extent of State and Federal agreements for sharing and management of the records. The report shall be submitted to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives not later than April 1, 2015.

SUBTITLE J—OTHER MATTERS

Section 591—Inspection of Outpatient Residential Facilities Occupied by Recovering Service Members

This section would modify the current reporting requirement from an annual basis to at least once every 2 years.

Section 592—Sense of Congress Regarding Fulfilling Promise to Leave No Member of the Armed Forces Unaccounted in Afghanistan

This section would express the sense of Congress that the United States has a responsibility to continue to search for missing or captured members of the Armed Forces while transitioning from combat operations in Afghanistan.

TITLE VI—COMPENSATION AND OTHER PERSONNEL BENEFITS

LEGISLATIVE PROVISIONS

SUBTITLE A—PAY AND ALLOWANCES

Section 601—Extension of Authority to Provide Temporary Increase in Rates of Basic Allowance for Housing Under Certain Circumstances

This section would extend for 1 year the authority of the Secretary of Defense to temporarily increase the rates of basic allowance for housing in areas impacted by natural disasters or experiencing a sudden influx of personnel.

SUBTITLE B—BONUSES AND SPECIAL AND INCENTIVE PAYS

Section 611—One-Year Extension of Certain Bonus and Special Pay Authorities for Reserve Forces

This section would extend the authority for the Selected Reserve reenlistment bonus, the Selected Reserve affiliation or enlistment bonus, special pay for enlisted members assigned to certain high-priority units, the Ready Reserve enlistment bonus for persons without prior service, the Ready Reserve enlistment and reenlistment bonus for persons with prior service, the Selected Reserve enlistment and reenlistment bonus for persons with prior service, income replacement payments for Reserve Component members experiencing extended and frequent mobilization for Active Duty service, and the authority to reimburse travel expenses for inactive duty training outside of normal commuting distance until December 31, 2015.

Section 612—One-Year Extension of Certain Bonus and Special Pay Authorities for Health Care Professionals

This section would extend the authority for the nurse officer candidate accession program, repayment of educational loans for certain health professionals who serve in the Selected Reserve, the accession and retention bonuses for psychologists, the accession bonus for registered nurses, the incentive special pay for nurse anesthetists, the special pay for Selected Reserve health care professionals in critically short wartime specialties, the accession bonus for dental officers, the accession bonus for pharmacy officers, the accession bonus for medical officers in critically short wartime specialties, and the accession bonus for dental specialist officers in critically short wartime specialties until December 31, 2015.

Section 613—One-Year Extension of Special Pay and Bonus Authorities for Nuclear Officers

This section would extend the authority for the special pay for nuclear-qualified officers extending a period of active service, nuclear career accession bonus, and the nuclear career annual incentive bonus until December 31, 2015.

Section 614—One-Year Extension of Authorities Relating to Title 37 Consolidated Special Pay, Incentive Pay, and Bonus Authorities

This section would extend the general bonus authority for enlisted members, the general bonus authority for officers, the special bonus and incentive pay authority for nuclear officers, special aviation incentive pay and bonus authorities, the special health professions incentive pay and bonus authorities, hazardous duty pay, assignment pay or special duty pay, skill incentive pay or proficiency bonus, contracting bonus for Senior Reserve Officers' Training Corps cadets and midshipmen, and the retention bonus for members with critical military skills or assigned to high-priority units until December 31, 2015.

Section 615—One-Year Extension of Authorities Relating to Payment of Other Title 37 Bonuses and Special Pays

This section would extend the authority for the aviation officer retention bonus, assignment incentive pay, the reenlistment bonus for active members, the enlistment bonus for active members, the incentive pay for precommissioning program members pursuing foreign language proficiency, the accession bonus for new officers in critical skills, the incentive bonus for conversion to military occupational specialty to ease personnel shortage, the incentive bonus for transfer between Armed Forces, and the accession bonus for officer candidates until December 31, 2015.

SUBTITLE C—COMMISSARY AND NONAPPROPRIATED FUND INSTRUMENTALITY BENEFITS AND OPERATIONS

Section 631—Review of Management, Food, and Pricing Options for Defense Commissary System

This section would require the Secretary of Defense to conduct a review, utilizing the services of an independent organization experienced in grocery retail analysis, of the defense commissary system. The results of the review shall be submitted to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives by February 1, 2015.

SUBTITLE D—OTHER MATTERS

Section 641—Anonymous Survey of Members of the Armed Forces Regarding Their Preferences for Military Pay and Benefits

This section would require the Secretary of Defense to carry out an anonymous survey of random members of the Armed Forces regarding pay and benefits, including the value that members place on forms of compensation, relative to one another, including basic pay, allowances for housing, bonuses and special pay, healthcare benefits, and retirement pay.

TITLE VII—HEALTH CARE PROVISIONS

LEGISLATIVE PROVISIONS

SUBTITLE A—TRICARE AND OTHER HEALTH CARE BENEFITS

Section 701—Mental Health Assessments for Members of the Armed Forces

This section would amend section 1074m of title 10, United States Code, to require the Secretary of Defense to provide person-to-person mental health screenings once during each 180-day period in which a member is deployed.

Section 702—Clarification of Provision of Food to Former Members and Dependents Not Receiving Inpatient Care in Military Medical Treatment Facilities

This section would amend section 1078b of title 10, United States Code, to allow former members and their dependents to receive food and beverages at no cost for those who are receiving certain outpatient care in military medical treatment facilities.

SUBTITLE B—HEALTH CARE ADMINISTRATION

Section 711—Cooperative Health Care Agreements Between the Military Departments and Non-Military Health Care Entities

This section would permit the Secretaries of the military departments to establish cooperative health care agreements between military installations and local and regional non-military health care entities.

Section 712—Surveys on Continued Viability of TRICARE Standard and TRICARE Extra

This section would change the frequency of the reports of the reviews submitted to Congress by the Comptroller General of the United States regarding

the processes, procedures, and analysis used by the Department of Defense to determine the adequacy of the number of health care providers who accept TRICARE Standard and TRICARE Extra.

Section 713—Limitation on Transfer or Elimination of Graduate Medical Education Billets

This section would prohibit the Secretary of Defense from transferring or eliminating a graduate medical education billet from a military medical treatment facility unless the Secretary conducts a review of at least 2 years of the implementation of the reform of the administration of the Military Health System, examines recruiting and retention of medical professionals with regard to the Department's graduate medical education programs, determines the assignment of such billets, and certifies to the congressional defense committees that any proposed transfer of a billet meets the needs of the military departments and patients.

Section 714—Review of Military Health System Modernization Study

This section would require the Secretary of Defense to submit a report to the congressional defense committees on the military medical treatment facility modernization study directed by the Resource Management Decision of the Department of Defense MP-D-01. The report would include the study data used by the Secretary and the results of the study with regard to recommendations to restructure or realign military medical treatment facilities. Further, this section would require the Comptroller General of the United States, not later than 180 days after the Secretary submits the report required, to submit a report to the congressional defense committees on the report submitted by the Secretary of Defense, to include an assessment of the study methodology and data used by the Secretary. The Secretary would be prohibited from realigning or restructuring a military medical treatment facility until 120 days following the date the Comptroller General is required to submit the report.

SUBTITLE C—REPORTS AND OTHER MATTERS

Section 721—Extension of Authority for Joint Department of Defense-Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Facility Demonstration Fund

This section would extend the authority for the Joint Department of Defense-Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Facility Demonstration Fund until September 30, 2016.

Section 722—Designation and Responsibilities of Senior Medical Advisor for Armed Forces Retirement Home

This section would designate the Deputy Director of the Defense Health Agency to be the senior medical advisor for the Armed Forces Retirement Home to reflect a change in the oversight organizational structure subsequent to the establishment of the Defense Health Agency. It also requires the homes to be in compliance with national recognized health care standards.

Section 723—Acquisition Strategy for Health Care Professional Staffing Services

This section would require the Secretary of Defense to develop and implement an acquisition strategy for contracting health care professional services within military medical treatment facilities. The Secretary would be required to submit a report to the congressional defense committees not later than April 1, 2015, on the status of implementation of the strategy.

Section 724—Pilot Program on Medication Therapy Management Under TRICARE Program

This section would direct the Secretary of Defense to carry out a pilot program for at least 2 years at not less than three locations to evaluate the feasibility and desirability of including medication therapy management as part of the TRICARE program. This program would be focused on improving patient medication use and outcomes using best commercial practices in medication therapy management and would quantify effectiveness by measuring patient medication use and outcomes as well as health care costs. The Secretary of Defense would be required to submit a report of the results of the pilot program to the congressional defense committees not later than 30 months after the program commences.

Section 725—Report on Reduction of Prime Service Areas

This section would amend section 732 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2013 (Public Law 112-239), as amended by section 701 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2014 (Public Law 113-66), to require the Secretary of Defense to submit to the congressional defense committees a report on the status of the reduction of the availability of TRICARE Prime. The required report would include details regarding the impact to beneficiaries of the reduction of TRICARE Prime availability, including any increase in cost to beneficiaries and the estimated cost savings to the Department of Defense.

Section 726—Comptroller General Report on Transition of Care for Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder or Traumatic Brain Injury

This section would require the Comptroller General of the United States to conduct an assessment of the transition of care for post-traumatic stress disorder and traumatic brain injury, to include changes to pharmaceutical treatment plans

and the benefits and challenges of combining the formularies across the Department of Defense and the Department of Veterans Affairs. The Comptroller General would be required to submit a report on the assessment to the congressional defense committees and the Committees on Veterans' Affairs of the House of Representatives and the Senate by April 1, 2015.

TITLE XIV—OTHER AUTHORIZATIONS

LEGISLATIVE PROVISIONS

SUBTITLE C—OTHER MATTERS

Section 1421—Authority for Transfer of Funds to Joint Department of Defense-Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Facility Demonstration Fund for Captain James A. Lovell Health Care Center, Illinois

This section would authorize the Secretary of Defense to transfer funds from the Defense Health Program to the Joint Department of Defense-Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Facility Demonstration Fund created by section 1704 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2010 (Public Law 111-84).

Section 1422—Authorization of Appropriations for Armed Forces Retirement Home

This section would authorize \$63.4 million to be appropriated for the operation of the Armed Forces Retirement Home during fiscal year 2015.

BILL LANGUAGE

1 **Subtitle A—Active Forces**

2 **SEC. 401 [Log 53081]. END STRENGTHS FOR ACTIVE FORCES.**

3 The Armed Forces are authorized strengths for active
4 duty personnel as of September 30, 2015, as follows:

5 (1) The Army, 490,000.

6 (2) The Navy, 323,600.

7 (3) The Marine Corps, 184,100.

8 (4) The Air Force, 310,900.

1 **SEC. 402 [Log 53083]. REVISIONS IN PERMANENT ACTIVE**
2 **DUTY END STRENGTH MINIMUM LEVELS.**

3 Section 691(b) of title 10, United States Code, is
4 amended by striking paragraphs (1) through (4) and in-
5 serting the following new paragraphs:

6 “(1) For the Army, 490,000.

7 “(2) For the Navy, 323,600.

8 “(3) For the Marine Corps, 184,100.

9 “(4) For the Air Force, 310,900.”.

1 **Subtitle B—Reserve Forces**

2 **SEC. 411 [Log 53084]. END STRENGTHS FOR SELECTED RE-**
3 **SERVE.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Armed Forces are authorized
5 strengths for Selected Reserve personnel of the reserve
6 components as of September 30, 2015, as follows:

7 (1) The Army National Guard of the United
8 States, 350,200.

9 (2) The Army Reserve, 202,000.

10 (3) The Navy Reserve, 57,300.

11 (4) The Marine Corps Reserve, 39,200.

12 (5) The Air National Guard of the United
13 States, 105,000.

14 (6) The Air Force Reserve, 67,100.

15 (7) The Coast Guard Reserve, 7,000.

16 (b) END STRENGTH REDUCTIONS.—The end
17 strengths prescribed by subsection (a) for the Selected Re-
18 serve of any reserve component shall be proportionately
19 reduced by—

20 (1) the total authorized strength of units orga-
21 nized to serve as units of the Selected Reserve of
22 such component which are on active duty (other
23 than for training) at the end of the fiscal year; and

24 (2) the total number of individual members not
25 in units organized to serve as units of the Selected

1 Reserve of such component who are on active duty
2 (other than for training or for unsatisfactory partici-
3 pation in training) without their consent at the end
4 of the fiscal year.

5 (c) END STRENGTH INCREASES.—Whenever units or
6 individual members of the Selected Reserve of any reserve
7 component are released from active duty during any fiscal
8 year, the end strength prescribed for such fiscal year for
9 the Selected Reserve of such reserve component shall be
10 increased proportionately by the total authorized strengths
11 of such units and by the total number of such individual
12 members.

1 **SEC. 412 [Log 53085]. END STRENGTHS FOR RESERVES ON**
2 **ACTIVE DUTY IN SUPPORT OF THE RE-**
3 **SERVES.**

4 Within the end strengths prescribed in section
5 411(a), the reserve components of the Armed Forces are
6 authorized, as of September 30, 2015, the following num-
7 ber of Reserves to be serving on full-time active duty or
8 full-time duty, in the case of members of the National
9 Guard, for the purpose of organizing, administering, re-
10 cruiting, instructing, or training the reserve components:

11 (1) The Army National Guard of the United
12 States, 31,385.

13 (2) The Army Reserve, 16,261.

14 (3) The Navy Reserve, 9,973.

15 (4) The Marine Corps Reserve, 2,261.

16 (5) The Air National Guard of the United
17 States, 14,704.

18 (6) The Air Force Reserve, 2,830.

1 **SEC. 413 [Log 53086]. END STRENGTHS FOR MILITARY TECH-**
2 **NICIANS (DUAL STATUS).**

3 The minimum number of military technicians (dual
4 status) as of the last day of fiscal year 2015 for the re-
5 serve components of the Army and the Air Force (notwith-
6 standing section 129 of title 10, United States Code) shall
7 be the following:

8 (1) For the Army National Guard of the United
9 States, 27,210.

10 (2) For the Army Reserve, 7,895.

11 (3) For the Air National Guard of the United
12 States, 21,792.

13 (4) For the Air Force Reserve, 9,789.

1 **SEC. 414 [Log 53087]. FISCAL YEAR 2015 LIMITATION ON**
2 **NUMBER OF NON-DUAL STATUS TECHNI-**
3 **CIANS.**

4 (a) LIMITATIONS.—

5 (1) NATIONAL GUARD.—Within the limitation
6 provided in section 10217(c)(2) of title 10, United
7 States Code, the number of non-dual status techni-
8 cians employed by the National Guard as of Sep-
9 tember 30, 2015, may not exceed the following:

10 (A) For the Army National Guard of the
11 United States, 1,600.

12 (B) For the Air National Guard of the
13 United States, 350.

14 (2) ARMY RESERVE.—The number of non-dual
15 status technicians employed by the Army Reserve as
16 of September 30, 2015, may not exceed 595.

17 (3) AIR FORCE RESERVE.—The number of non-
18 dual status technicians employed by the Air Force
19 Reserve as of September 30, 2015, may not exceed
20 90.

21 (b) NON-DUAL STATUS TECHNICIANS DEFINED.—In
22 this section, the term “non-dual status technician” has the
23 meaning given that term in section 10217(a) of title 10,
24 United States Code.

1 **SEC. 415 [Log 53088]. MAXIMUM NUMBER OF RESERVE PER-**
2 **SONNEL AUTHORIZED TO BE ON ACTIVE**
3 **DUTY FOR OPERATIONAL SUPPORT.**

4 During fiscal year 2015, the maximum number of
5 members of the reserve components of the Armed Forces
6 who may be serving at any time on full-time operational
7 support duty under section 115(b) of title 10, United
8 States Code, is the following:

9 (1) The Army National Guard of the United
10 States, 17,000.

11 (2) The Army Reserve, 13,000.

12 (3) The Navy Reserve, 6,200.

13 (4) The Marine Corps Reserve, 3,000.

14 (5) The Air National Guard of the United
15 States, 16,000.

16 (6) The Air Force Reserve, 14,000.

1 **Subtitle C—Authorization of**
2 **Appropriations**

3 **SEC. 421 [Log 53089]. MILITARY PERSONNEL.**

4 (a) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Funds
5 are hereby authorized to be appropriated for fiscal year
6 2015 for the use of the Armed Forces and other activities
7 and agencies of the Department of Defense for expenses,
8 not otherwise provided for, for military personnel, as spec-
9 ified in the funding table in section 4401.

10 (b) CONSTRUCTION OF AUTHORIZATION.—The au-
11 thorization of appropriations in subsection (a) supersedes
12 any other authorization of appropriations (definite or in-
13 definite) for such purpose for fiscal year 2015.

1 **Subtitle A—Officer Personnel**
2 **Policy Generally**

3 **SEC. 501 [Log 53706]. AUTHORITY TO LIMIT CONSIDERATION**
4 **FOR EARLY RETIREMENT BY SELECTIVE RE-**
5 **TIREMENT BOARDS TO PARTICULAR WAR-**
6 **RANT OFFICER YEAR GROUPS AND SPECIAL-**
7 **TIES.**

8 Section 581(d) of title 10, United States Code, is
9 amended—

10 (1) by redesignating paragraph (2) as para-
11 graph (3);

12 (2) by designating the second sentence of para-
13 graph (1) as paragraph (2); and

14 (3) in paragraph (2), as so designated—

15 (A) by striking “the list shall include each”
16 and inserting “the list shall include—
17 “(A) the name of each”;

18 (B) by striking the period at the end and
19 inserting “; or”; and

20 (C) by adding at the end the following new
21 subparagraph:

22 “(B) with respect to a group of warrant officers
23 designated under subparagraph (A) who are in a
24 particular grade and competitive category, only those
25 warrant officers in that grade and competitive cat-

1 egory who are also in a particular year group or spe-
2 cialty, or any combination thereof determined by the
3 Secretary.”.

1 **SEC. 502 [Log 53808]. RELIEF FROM LIMITS ON PERCENT-**
2 **AGE OF OFFICERS WHO MAY BE REC-**
3 **OMMENDED FOR DISCHARGE DURING A FIS-**
4 **CAL YEAR USING ENHANCED AUTHORITY**
5 **FOR SELECTIVE EARLY DISCHARGES.**

6 Section 638a(d) of title 10, United States Code, is
7 amended—

8 (1) by striking paragraph (3); and

9 (2) by redesignating paragraphs (4) and (5) as
10 paragraphs (3) and (4), respectively.

1 **SEC. 503 [Log 53702]. REPEAL OF REQUIREMENT FOR SUB-**
2 **MISSION TO CONGRESS OF ANNUAL REPORTS**
3 **ON JOINT OFFICER MANAGEMENT AND PRO-**
4 **MOTION POLICY OBJECTIVES FOR JOINT OF-**
5 **FICERS.**

6 (a) REPEAL OF ANNUAL REPORTS.—

7 (1) JOINT OFFICER MANAGEMENT.—Section
8 667 of title 10, United States Code, is repealed.

9 (2) PROMOTION POLICY OBJECTIVES FOR JOINT
10 OFFICERS.—Section 662 of such title is amended—

11 (A) by striking “(a) QUALIFICATIONS.—”;

12 and

13 (B) by striking subsection (b).

14 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections
15 at the beginning of chapter 38 of such title is amended
16 by striking the item relating to section 667.

1 **SEC. 504 [Log 53734]. OPTIONS FOR PHASE II OF JOINT PRO-**
2 **FESSIONAL MILITARY EDUCATION.**

3 Section 2154(a)(2) of title 10, United States Code,
4 is amended by striking “consisting of a joint professional
5 military education curriculum” and all that follows
6 through the period at the end and inserting the following:

7 “consisting of—

8 “(A) a joint professional military education
9 curriculum taught in residence at the Joint
10 Forces Staff College or a senior level service
11 school that has been designated and certified by
12 the Secretary of Defense as a joint professional
13 military education institution; or

14 “(B) a senior level service course of at
15 least ten months that has been designated and
16 certified by the Secretary of Defense as a joint
17 professional military education course.”.

1 **SEC. 505 [Log 53827]. REQUIRED CONSIDERATION OF CER-**
2 **TAIN ELEMENTS OF COMMAND CLIMATE IN**
3 **PERFORMANCE APPRAISALS OF COM-**
4 **MANDING OFFICERS.**

5 The Secretary of a military department shall ensure
6 that the performance appraisal of a commanding officer
7 in an Armed Force under the jurisdiction of that Secretary
8 indicates the extent to which the commanding officer has
9 or has not established a command climate in which—

10 (1) allegations of sexual assault are properly
11 managed and fairly evaluated; and

12 (2) a victim of criminal activity, including sex-
13 ual assault, can report the criminal activity without
14 fear of retaliation, including ostracism and group
15 pressure from other members of the command.

1 **Subtitle B—Reserve Component**
2 **Personnel Management**

3 **SEC. 511 [Log 53743]. RETENTION ON THE RESERVE ACTIVE-**
4 **STATUS LIST FOLLOWING NONSELECTION**
5 **FOR PROMOTION OF CERTAIN HEALTH PRO-**
6 **FESIONS OFFICERS AND FIRST LIEUTEN-**
7 **ANTS AND LIEUTENANTS (JUNIOR GRADE)**
8 **PURSUING BACCALAUREATE DEGREES.**

9 (a) RETENTION OF CERTAIN FIRST LIEUTENANTS
10 AND LIEUTENANTS (JUNIOR GRADE) FOLLOWING NON-
11 SELECTION FOR PROMOTION.—Subsection (a)(1) of sec-
12 tion 14701 of title 10, United States Code, is amended—

13 (1) by striking “A reserve officer of” and in-
14 serting “(A) A reserve officer of the Army, Navy,
15 Air Force, or Marine Corps described in subpara-
16 graph (B) who is required to be removed from the
17 reserve active-status list under section 14504 of this
18 title, or a reserve officer of”;

19 (2) by striking “of this title may, subject to the
20 needs of the service and to section 14509 of this
21 title,” and inserting “of this title, may”;

22 (3) by adding at the end the following new sub-
23 paragraphs:

24 “(B) A reserve officer covered by this subparagraph
25 is a reserve officer of the Army, Air Force, or Marine

1 Corps who holds the grade of first lieutenant, or a reserve
2 officer of the Navy who holds the grade of lieutenant (jun-
3 ior grade), and who—

4 “(i) is a health professions officer; or

5 “(ii) is actively pursuing an undergraduate pro-
6 gram of education leading to a baccalaureate degree.

7 “(C) The consideration of a reserve officer for con-
8 tinuation on the reserve active-status list pursuant to this
9 paragraph is subject to the needs of the service and to
10 section 14509 of this title.”.

11 (b) RETENTION OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS OFFI-
12 CERS.—Such section is further amended—

13 (1) by redesignating subsection (b) as sub-
14 section (c); and

15 (2) by inserting after subsection (a) the fol-
16 lowing new subsection (b):

17 “(b) CONTINUATION OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS OF-
18 FICERS.—(1) Notwithstanding subsection (a)(6), a health
19 professions officer obligated to a period of service incurred
20 under section 16201 of this title who is required to be
21 removed from the reserve active-status list under section
22 14504, 14505, 14506, or 14507 of this title and who has
23 not completed a service obligation incurred under section
24 16201 of this title shall be retained on the reserve active-
25 status list until the completion of such service obligation

1 and then discharged, unless sooner retired or discharged
2 under another provision of law.

3 “(2) The Secretary concerned may waive the applica-
4 bility of paragraph (1) to any officer if the Secretary de-
5 termines that completion of the service obligation of that
6 officer is not in the best interest of the service.

7 “(3) A health professions officer who is continued on
8 the reserve active-status list under this subsection who is
9 subsequently promoted or whose name is on a list of offi-
10 cers recommended for promotion to the next higher grade
11 is not required to be discharged or retired upon completion
12 of the officer’s service obligation. Such officer may con-
13 tinue on the reserve active-status list as other officers of
14 the same grade unless separated under another provision
15 of law.”.

1 **Subtitle C—General Service**
2 **Authorities**

3 **SEC. 521 [Log 53698]. PROCEDURES FOR JUDICIAL REVIEW**
4 **OF MILITARY PERSONNEL DECISIONS RELAT-**
5 **ING TO CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS.**

6 (a) AVAILABILITY OF JUDICIAL REVIEW; LIMITA-
7 TIONS.—

8 (1) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 79 of title 10,
9 United States Code, is amended by adding at the
10 end the following new section:

11 **“§ 1560. Judicial review of decisions relating to cor-**
12 **rection of military records**

13 “(a) AVAILABILITY OF JUDICIAL REVIEW.—

14 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Pursuant to sections 1346
15 and 1491 of title 28 and chapter 7 of title 5, any
16 person adversely affected by a records correction
17 final decision may obtain judicial review of the deci-
18 sion in a court with jurisdiction to hear the matter.

19 “(2) RECORDS CORRECTION FINAL DECISION
20 DEFINED.—In this section, the term ‘records correc-
21 tion final decision’ means any of the following deci-
22 sions:

23 “(A) A final decision issued by the Sec-
24 retary concerned pursuant to section 1552 of
25 this title.

1 “(B) A final decision issued by the Sec-
2 retary of a military department or the Sec-
3 retary of Homeland Security pursuant to sec-
4 tion 1034(g) of this title.

5 “(C) A final decision issued by the Sec-
6 retary of Defense pursuant to section 1034(h)
7 of this title.

8 “(D) A final decision issued by the Sec-
9 retary concerned pursuant to section 1554a of
10 this title.

11 “(b) EXHAUSTION OF ADMINISTRATIVE REM-
12 EDIES.—

13 “(1) GENERAL RULE.—Except as provided in
14 paragraphs (3) and (4), judicial review of a matter
15 that could be subject to correction under a provision
16 of law specified in subsection (a)(2) may not be ob-
17 tained under this section or any other provision of
18 law unless—

19 “(A) the petitioner has requested a correc-
20 tion under sections 1552 or 1554a of this title
21 (including such a request in a matter arising
22 under section 1034 of this title); and

23 “(B) the Secretary concerned has rendered
24 a final decision denying that correction in whole
25 or in part.

1 “(2) WHISTLEBLOWER CASES.—When the final
2 decision of the Secretary concerned is subject to re-
3 view by the Secretary of Defense under section
4 1034(h) of this title, the petitioner is not required
5 to seek such review before obtaining judicial review,
6 but if the petitioner seeks such review, judicial re-
7 view may not be sought until the earlier of the fol-
8 lowing occurs:

9 “(A) The Secretary of Defense makes a
10 decision in the matter.

11 “(B) The period specified in section
12 1034(h) of this title for the Secretary to make
13 a decision in the matter expires.

14 “(3) CLASS ACTIONS.—If judicial review of a
15 records correction final decision is sought, and the
16 petitioner for such judicial review also seeks to bring
17 a class action with respect to a matter for which the
18 petitioner requested a correction under section 1552
19 of this title (including a request in a matter arising
20 under section 1034 of this title) and the court issues
21 an order certifying a class in the case, paragraphs
22 (1) and (2) do not apply to any member of the cer-
23 tified class (other than the petitioner) with respect
24 to any matter covered by a claim for which the class
25 is certified.

1 “(4) TIMELINESS.—Paragraph (1) shall not
2 apply if the records correction final decision of the
3 Secretary concerned is not issued by the date that
4 is 18 months after the date on which the petitioner
5 requests a correction.

6 “(c) STATUTES OF LIMITATION.—

7 “(1) SIX YEARS FROM FINAL DECISION.—A
8 records correction final decision (other than in a
9 matter to which paragraph (2) applies) is not sub-
10 ject to judicial review under this section or otherwise
11 subject to review in any court unless petition for
12 such review is filed in a court not later than six
13 years after the date of the records correction final
14 decision.

15 “(2) SIX YEARS FOR CERTAIN CLAIMS THAT
16 MAY RESULT IN PAYMENT OF MONEY.—(A) In a
17 case of a records correction final decision described
18 in subparagraph (B), the records correction final de-
19 cision (or the portion of such decision described in
20 such subparagraph) is not subject to judicial review
21 under this section or otherwise subject to review in
22 any court unless petition for such review is filed in
23 a court before the end of the six-year period that
24 began on the date of discharge, retirement, release
25 from active duty, or death while on active duty, of

1 the person whose military records are the subject of
2 the correction request. Such period does not include
3 any time between the date of the filing of the re-
4 quest for correction of military records leading to
5 the records correction final decision and the date of
6 the final decision.

7 “(B) Subparagraph (A) applies to a records
8 correction final decision or portion of the decision
9 that involves a denial of a claim that, if relief were
10 to be granted by the court, would support, or result
11 in, the payment of money either under a court order
12 or under a subsequent administrative determination,
13 other than payments made under—

14 “(i) chapter 61 of this title to a claimant
15 who prior to such records correction final deci-
16 sion, was not the subject of a decision by a
17 physical evaluation board or by any other board
18 authorized to grant disability payments to the
19 claimant; or

20 “(ii) chapter 73 of this title.

21 “(d) HABEAS CORPUS.—This section does not affect
22 any cause of action arising under chapter 153 of title 28.”.

23 (2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sec-
24 tions at the beginning of such chapter is amended
25 by adding at the end the following new item:

“1560. Judicial review of decisions.”.

1 (b) EFFECT OF DENIAL OF REQUEST FOR CORREC-
2 TION OF RECORDS WHEN PROHIBITED PERSONNEL AC-
3 TION ALLEGED.—

4 (1) NOTICE OF DENIAL; PROCEDURES FOR JU-
5 DICIAL REVIEW.—Subsection (g) of section 1034 of
6 such title is amended by adding at the end the fol-
7 lowing new paragraph:

8 “(7) In any case in which the final decision of the
9 Secretary concerned results in denial, in whole or in part,
10 of any requested correction of the record of the member
11 or former member, the Secretary concerned shall provide
12 the member or former member—

13 “(A) a concise written statement of the basis
14 for the decision; and

15 “(B) a written notification of the availability of
16 judicial review of the decision pursuant to section
17 1560 of this title and the time period for obtaining
18 such review in accordance with the applicable statute
19 of limitations.”.

20 (2) SECRETARY OF DEFENSE REVIEW; NOTICE
21 OF DENIAL.—Subsection (h) of such section is
22 amended—

23 (A) by inserting “(1)” before “Upon the
24 completion of all”; and

1 (B) by adding at the end the following new
2 paragraph:

3 “(2) The submittal of a matter to the Secretary of
4 Defense by the member or former member under para-
5 graph (1) must be made within 90 days of the receipt by
6 the member or former member of the final decision of the
7 Secretary of the military department concerned in the
8 matter. In any case in which the final decision of the Sec-
9 retary of Defense results in denial, in whole or in part,
10 of any requested correction of the record of the member
11 or former member, the Secretary of Defense shall provide
12 the member or former member—

13 “(A) a concise written statement of the basis
14 for the decision; and

15 “(B) a written notification of the availability of
16 judicial review of the decision pursuant to section
17 1560 of this title and the time period for obtaining
18 such review in accordance with the applicable statute
19 of limitations.”.

20 (3) SOLE BASIS FOR JUDICIAL REVIEW.—Such
21 section is further amended—

22 (A) by redesignating subsections (i) and (j)
23 as subsections (j) and (k), respectively; and

24 (B) by inserting after subsection (h) the
25 following new subsection (i):

1 “(i) JUDICIAL REVIEW.—(1) A decision of the Sec-
2 retary of Defense under subsection (h) shall be subject to
3 judicial review only as provided in section 1560 of this
4 title.

5 “(2) In a case in which review by the Secretary of
6 Defense under subsection (h) was not sought, a decision
7 of the Secretary of a military department under subsection
8 (g) shall be subject to judicial review only as provided in
9 section 1560 of this title.

10 “(3) A decision by the Secretary of Homeland Secu-
11 rity under subsection (g) shall be subject to judicial review
12 only as provided in section 1560 of this title.”.

13 (c) EFFECT OF DENIAL OF OTHER REQUESTS FOR
14 CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS.—Section 1552 of
15 such title is amended by adding at the end the following
16 new subsections:

17 “(h) In any case in which the final decision of the
18 Secretary concerned results in denial, in whole or in part,
19 of any requested correction, the Secretary concerned shall
20 provide the claimant—

21 “(1) a concise written statement of the basis for
22 the decision; and

23 “(2) a written notification of the availability of
24 judicial review of the decision pursuant to section
25 1560 of this title and the time period for obtaining

1 such review in accordance with the applicable statute
2 of limitations.

3 “(i) A decision by the Secretary concerned under this
4 section shall be subject to judicial review only as provided
5 in section 1560 of this title.”.

6 (d) JUDICIAL REVIEW OF CORRECTIONS REC-
7 OMMENDED BY THE PHYSICAL DISABILITY BOARD OF
8 REVIEW.—Section 1554a of such title is amended—

9 (1) by redesignating subsection (f) as sub-
10 section (h); and

11 (2) by inserting after subsection (e) the fol-
12 lowing new subsections (f) and (g):

13 “(f) RECORD OF DECISION AND NOTIFICATION.—In
14 any case in which the final decision of the Secretary con-
15 cerned results in denial, in whole or in part, of any re-
16 quested correction of the record of the member or former
17 member, the Secretary shall provide to the member or
18 former member—

19 “(1) a concise written statement of the basis for
20 the decision; and

21 “(2) a written notification of the availability of
22 judicial review of the decision pursuant to section
23 1560 of this title and the time period for obtaining
24 such review in accordance with the applicable statute
25 of limitations.

1 “(g) JUDICIAL REVIEW.—A decision by the Secretary
2 concerned under this section shall be subject to judicial
3 review only as provided in section 1560 of this title.”.

4 (e) EFFECTIVE DATE AND APPLICATION.—

5 (1) IN GENERAL.—The amendments made by
6 this section shall take effect 180 days after the date
7 of the enactment of this Act, and shall apply to all
8 final decisions of the Secretary of Defense under
9 section 1034(h) of title 10, United States Code, and
10 of the Secretary of a military department and the
11 Secretary of Homeland Security under sections
12 1034(g), 1552, or 1554a of such title rendered on
13 or after such date.

14 (2) TREATMENT OF EXISTING CASES.—This
15 section and the amendments made by this section do
16 not affect the authority of any court to exercise ju-
17 risdiction over any case that was properly before the
18 court before the effective date specified in paragraph
19 (1).

20 (f) IMPLEMENTATION.—The Secretary of the military
21 department concerned and, in the case of the Coast
22 Guard, the Secretary of the Department in which the
23 Coast Guard is operating may prescribe regulations, and
24 interim guidance before prescribing such regulations, to
25 implement the amendments made by this section. Regula-

1 tions or interim guidance prescribed by the Secretary of
2 a military department may not take effect until approved
3 by the Secretary of Defense.

1 **SEC. 522 [Log 53738]. ADDITIONAL REQUIRED ELEMENTS OF**
2 **TRANSITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.**

3 (a) INFORMATION ON EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE
4 AND OTHER AVAILABLE BENEFITS.—Section 1144 of
5 title 10, United States Code, is amended—

6 (1) by redesignating subsections (c), (d), and
7 (e), as subsections (d), (e), and (f), respectively; and

8 (2) by inserting after subsection (b) the fol-
9 lowing new subsection (c):

10 “(c) ADDITIONAL ELEMENTS OF PROGRAM.—The
11 mandatory program carried out by this section also shall
12 include the following:

13 “(1) For any such member who plans to use
14 the member’s entitlement to educational assistance
15 under title 38—

16 “(A) instruction providing an overview of
17 the use of such entitlement; and

18 “(B) courses of post-secondary education
19 appropriate for the member, courses of post-
20 secondary education compatible with the mem-
21 ber’s education goals, and instruction on how to
22 finance the member’s post-secondary education.

23 “(2) Instruction in the benefits under laws ad-
24 ministered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs and
25 in other subjects determined to be appropriate by
26 the Secretary concerned.”.

1 (b) DEADLINE FOR IMPLEMENTATION.—The pro-
2 gram carried out under section 1144 of title 10, United
3 States Code, shall comply with the requirements of sub-
4 section (c) of such section, as added by subsection (a),
5 by not later than April 1, 2016.

1 **SEC. 523 [Log 53767]. EXTENSION OF AUTHORITY TO CON-**
2 **DUCT CAREER FLEXIBILITY PROGRAMS.**

3 (a) DURATION OF PROGRAM AUTHORITY.—Sub-
4 section (m) of section 533 of the Duncan Hunter National
5 Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2009 (Public
6 Law 110–417; 10 U.S.C. prec. 701 note), as amended by
7 section 531(a) of the National Defense Authorization Act
8 for Fiscal Year 2012 (Public Law 112–81; 125 Stat.
9 1403) and redesignated by section 522(a)(2) of the Na-
10 tional Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2013
11 (Public Law 112–239; 126 Stat. 1722), is amended by
12 striking “December 31, 2015” and inserting “December
13 31, 2019”.

14 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS TO REPORTING RE-
15 QUIREMENTS.—Subsection (k) of section 533 of the Dun-
16 can Hunter National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal
17 Year 2009, as amended by section 531(c) of the National
18 Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2012, is
19 amended—

20 (1) in paragraph (1), by striking “and 2017”
21 and inserting “, 2017, and 2019”; and

22 (2) in paragraph (2), by striking “March 1,
23 2019” and inserting “March 1, 2020”.

1 **SEC. 524 [Log 53847]. PROVISION OF INFORMATION TO MEM-**
2 **BERS OF THE ARMED FORCES ON PRIVACY**
3 **RIGHTS RELATING TO RECEIPT OF MENTAL**
4 **HEALTH SERVICES.**

5 (a) PROVISION OF INFORMATION REQUIRED.—The
6 Secretaries of the military departments shall ensure that
7 the information described in subsection (b) is provided—

8 (1) to each officer candidate during initial
9 training;

10 (2) to each recruit during basic training; and

11 (3) to other members of the Armed Forces at
12 such times as the Secretary of Defense considers ap-
13 propriate.

14 (b) REQUIRED INFORMATION.—The information re-
15 quired to be provided under subsection (a) shall include
16 information on the applicability of Department of Defense
17 Directive 6025.18 and other regulations regarding privacy
18 prescribed pursuant to the Health Insurance Portability
19 and Accountability Act of 1996 (Public Law 104–191) to
20 records regarding a member of the Armed Forces seeking
21 and receiving mental health services.

1 **Subtitle D—Military Justice, In-**
2 **cluding Sexual Assault and Do-**
3 **mestic Violence Prevention and**
4 **Response**

5 **SEC. 531 [Log 53870]. IMPROVED DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE**
6 **INFORMATION REPORTING AND COLLECTION**
7 **OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE INCIDENTS INVOLV-**
8 **ING MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES.**

9 (a) DATA REPORTING AND COLLECTION IMPROVE-
10 MENTS.—Not later than one year after the date of the
11 enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense shall de-
12 velop a comprehensive management plan to address defi-
13 ciencies in the reporting of information on incidents of do-
14 mestic violence involving members of the Armed Forces
15 for inclusion in the Department of Defense database on
16 domestic violence incidents required by section 1562 of
17 title 10, United States Code, to ensure that the database
18 provides an accurate count of domestic violence incidents
19 and any consequent disciplinary action.

20 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 543(a) of
21 the Ike Skelton National Defense Authorization Act for
22 Fiscal Year 2011 (Public Law 111–383; 10 U.S.C. 1562
23 note) is amended by striking paragraph (1).

1 **SEC. 532 [Log 53901]. ADDITIONAL DUTY FOR JUDICIAL PRO-**
2 **CEEDINGS PANEL REGARDING USE OF MEN-**
3 **TAL HEALTH RECORDS BY DEFENSE DURING**
4 **PRELIMINARY HEARING AND COURT-MAR-**
5 **TIAL PROCEEDINGS.**

6 (a) REVIEW REQUIRED.—The independent panel es-
7 tablished by the Secretary of Defense under section
8 576(a)(2) of the National Defense Authorization Act for
9 Fiscal Year 2013 (Public Law 112–239; 126 Stat. 1758),
10 known as the “judicial proceedings panel”, shall conduct
11 a review and assessment of—

12 (1) the impact of the use of mental health
13 records by the defense during the preliminary hear-
14 ing conducted under section 832 of title 10, United
15 States Code (article 32 of the Uniform Code of Mili-
16 tary Justice), and during court-martial proceedings;
17 and

18 (2) the use of mental health records in civilian
19 criminal legal proceedings in order to identify any
20 significant discrepancies between the two legal sys-
21 tems.

22 (b) SUBMISSION OF RESULTS.—The judicial pro-
23 ceedings panel shall include the results of the review and
24 assessment in one of the reports required by section
25 576(c)(2)(B) of the National Defense Authorization Act
26 for Fiscal Year 2013.

1 **SEC. 533 [Log 53968]. APPLICABILITY OF SEXUAL ASSAULT**
2 **PREVENTION AND RESPONSE AND RELATED**
3 **MILITARY JUSTICE ENHANCEMENTS TO MILI-**
4 **TARY SERVICE ACADEMIES.**

5 The Secretary of the military department concerned
6 and, in the case of the Coast Guard Academy, the Sec-
7 retary of the Department in which the Coast Guard is op-
8 erating shall ensure that the provisions of title XVII of
9 the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year
10 2014 (Public Law 113–66; 127 Stat. 950), including
11 amendments made by that title, apply to the United States
12 Military Academy, the Naval Academy, the Air Force
13 Academy, and the Coast Guard Academy.

1 **Subtitle E—Military Family**
2 **Readiness**

3 **SEC. 541 [Log 53722]. EARLIER DETERMINATION OF DE-**
4 **PENDENT STATUS WITH RESPECT TO TRANSI-**
5 **TIONAL COMPENSATION FOR DEPENDENTS**
6 **OF MEMBERS SEPARATED FOR DEPENDENT**
7 **ABUSE.**

8 Section 1059(d)(4) of title 10, United States Code,
9 is amended by striking “as of the date on which the indi-
10 vidual described in subsection (b) is separated from active
11 duty” and inserting “as of the date on which the separa-
12 tion action is initiated by a commander of the individual
13 described in subsection (b)”.

1 **SEC. 542 [Log 53807]. IMPROVED CONSISTENCY IN DATA**
2 **COLLECTION AND REPORTING IN ARMED**
3 **FORCES SUICIDE PREVENTION EFFORTS.**

4 (a) POLICY FOR STANDARD SUICIDE DATA COLLEC-
5 TION, REPORTING, AND ASSESSMENT.—The Secretary of
6 Defense shall prescribe a policy for the development of a
7 standard method for collecting, reporting, and assessing
8 suicide data and suicide-attempt data involving members
9 of the Armed Forces, including reserve components there-
10 of, and their dependents in order to improve the consist-
11 ency and comprehensiveness of—

12 (1) the suicide prevention policy developed pur-
13 suant to section 582 of the National Defense Au-
14 thorization Act for Fiscal Year 2013 (Public Law
15 112–239, 10 U.S.C. 1071 note); and

16 (2) the suicide prevention and resilience pro-
17 gram for the National Guard and Reserves estab-
18 lished pursuant to section 10219 of title 10, United
19 States Code.

20 (b) SUBMISSION OF POLICY AND CONGRESSIONAL
21 BRIEFING.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the
22 enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense shall sub-
23 mit the policy developed under subsection (a) to the Com-
24 mittees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House
25 of Representatives. At the request of the committees, the
26 Secretary also shall brief such committees on the policy

1 and the implementation status of the standardized suicide
2 data collection, reporting and assessment method.

3 (c) CONSULTATION AND IMPLEMENTATION.—In the
4 case of the suicide prevention and resilience program for
5 the National Guard and Reserves—

6 (1) the Secretary of Defense shall develop the
7 policy required by subsection (a) in consultation with
8 the Chief of the National Guard Bureau; and

9 (2) the adjutants general of the States, the
10 Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the District of Co-
11 lumbia, Guam, and the Virgin Islands shall imple-
12 ment the policy within 180 days after the date of the
13 submission of the policy under subsection (b).

14 (d) DEPENDENT DEFINED.—In this section, the
15 term “dependent”, with respect to a member of the Armed
16 Forces, means a person described in section 1072(2) of
17 title 10, United States Code, except that, in the case of
18 a parent or parent-in-law of the member, the income re-
19 quirements of subparagraph (E) of such section do not
20 apply.

1 **SEC. 543 [Log 53102]. PROTECTION OF CHILD CUSTODY AR-**
2 **RANGEMENTS FOR PARENTS WHO ARE MEM-**
3 **BERS OF THE ARMED FORCES.**

4 (a) CHILD CUSTODY PROTECTION.—Title II of the
5 Servicemembers Civil Relief Act (50 U.S.C. App. 521 et
6 seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following new
7 section:

8 **“SEC. 208. CHILD CUSTODY PROTECTION.**

9 “(a) RESTRICTION ON TEMPORARY CUSTODY
10 ORDER.—If a court renders a temporary order for custo-
11 dial responsibility for a child based solely on a deployment
12 or anticipated deployment of a parent who is a
13 servicemember, then the court shall require that, upon the
14 return of the servicemember from deployment, the custody
15 order that was in effect immediately preceding the tem-
16 porary order shall be reinstated, unless the court finds
17 that such a reinstatement is not in the best interest of
18 the child, except that any such finding shall be subject
19 to subsection (b).

20 “(b) LIMITATION ON CONSIDERATION OF MEMBER’S
21 DEPLOYMENT IN DETERMINATION OF CHILD’S BEST IN-
22 TEREST.—If a motion or a petition is filed seeking a per-
23 manent order to modify the custody of the child of a
24 servicemember, no court may consider the absence of the
25 servicemember by reason of deployment, or the possibility

1 of deployment, as the sole factor in determining the best
2 interest of the child.

3 “(c) NO FEDERAL JURISDICTION OR RIGHT OF AC-
4 TION OR REMOVAL.—Nothing in this section shall create
5 a Federal right of action or otherwise give rise to Federal
6 jurisdiction or create a right of removal.

7 “(d) PREEMPTION.—In any case where State law ap-
8 plicable to a child custody proceeding involving a tem-
9 porary order as contemplated in this section provides a
10 higher standard of protection to the rights of the parent
11 who is a deploying servicemember than the rights provided
12 under this section with respect to such temporary order,
13 the appropriate court shall apply the higher State stand-
14 ard.

15 “(e) DEPLOYMENT DEFINED.—In this section, the
16 term ‘deployment’ means the movement or mobilization of
17 a servicemember to a location for a period of longer than
18 60 days and not longer than 540 days pursuant to tem-
19 porary or permanent official orders—

20 “(1) that are designated as unaccompanied;

21 “(2) for which dependent travel is not author-
22 ized; or

23 “(3) that otherwise do not permit the move-
24 ment of family members to that location.”.

1 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents
2 in section 1(b) of such Act is amended by adding at the
3 end of the items relating to title II the following new item:
“208. Child custody protection.”.

1 **Subtitle F—Education and**
2 **Training Opportunities**

3 **SEC. 551 [Log 53680]. AUTHORIZED DURATION OF FOREIGN**
4 **AND CULTURAL EXCHANGE ACTIVITIES AT**
5 **MILITARY SERVICE ACADEMIES.**

6 (a) **MILITARY ACADEMY.**—Section 4345a(a) of title
7 10, United States Code, is amended by striking “two
8 weeks” and inserting “four weeks”.

9 (b) **NAVAL ACADEMY.**—Section 6957b(a) of such title
10 is amended by striking “two weeks” and inserting “four
11 weeks”.

12 (c) **AIR FORCE ACADEMY.**—Section 9345a(a) of such
13 title is amended by striking “two weeks” and inserting
14 “four weeks”.

1 **Subtitle G—Defense Dependents’**
2 **Education**

3 **SEC. 561 [Log 53793]. CONTINUATION OF AUTHORITY TO AS-**
4 **SIST LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCIES THAT**
5 **BENEFIT DEPENDENTS OF MEMBERS OF THE**
6 **ARMED FORCES AND DEPARTMENT OF DE-**
7 **FENSE CIVILIAN EMPLOYEES.**

8 (a) ASSISTANCE TO SCHOOLS WITH SIGNIFICANT
9 NUMBERS OF MILITARY DEPENDENT STUDENTS.—Of the
10 amount authorized to be appropriated for fiscal year 2015
11 by section 301 and available for operation and mainte-
12 nance for Defense-wide activities as specified in the fund-
13 ing table in section 4301, \$25,000,000 shall be available
14 only for the purpose of providing assistance to local edu-
15 cational agencies under subsection (a) of section 572 of
16 the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year
17 2006 (Public Law 109–163; 20 U.S.C. 7703b).

18 (b) LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCY DEFINED.—In
19 this section, the term “local educational agency” has the
20 meaning given that term in section 8013(9) of the Ele-
21 mentary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.
22 7713(9)).

1 **SEC. 562 [Log 53862]. AUTHORITY TO EMPLOY NON-UNITED**
2 **STATES CITIZENS AS TEACHERS IN DEPART-**
3 **MENT OF DEFENSE OVERSEAS DEPENDENTS'**
4 **SCHOOL SYSTEM.**

5 Section 2(2)(A) of the Defense Department Overseas
6 Teachers Pay and Personnel Practices Act (20 U.S.C.
7 901(2)(A)) is amended by inserting before the comma at
8 the end the following: “or, in the case of a teaching posi-
9 tion that involves instruction in the host-nation language,
10 a local national when a citizen of the United States is not
11 reasonably available to provide such instruction”.

1 **SEC. 563 [Log 53755]. EXPANSION OF FUNCTIONS OF THE**
2 **ADVISORY COUNCIL ON DEPENDENTS' EDU-**
3 **CATION TO INCLUDE DOMESTIC DEPENDENT**
4 **ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS.**

5 (a) **EXPANSION OF FUNCTIONS.**—Subsection (c) of
6 section 1411 of the Defense Dependents' Education Act
7 of 1978 (20 U.S.C. 929) is amended—

8 (1) in paragraph (1), by inserting “, and of the
9 domestic dependent elementary and secondary school
10 system established under section 2164 of title 10,
11 United States Code,” after “of the defense depend-
12 ents' education system”; and

13 (2) in paragraph (2), by inserting “and in the
14 domestic dependent elementary and secondary school
15 system” before the comma at the end.

16 (b) **MEMBERSHIP OF COUNCIL.**—Subsection
17 (a)(1)(B) of such section is amended—

18 (1) by inserting “and the domestic dependent
19 elementary and secondary schools established under
20 section 2164 of title 10, United States Code” after
21 “the defense dependents' education system”; and

22 (2) by inserting “either” before “such system”.

1 **SEC. 564 [Log53761]. SUPPORT FOR EFFORTS TO IMPROVE**
2 **ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT AND TRANSITION**
3 **OF MILITARY DEPENDENT STUDENTS.**

4 The Secretary of Defense may make grants to non-
5 profit organizations that provide services to improve the
6 academic achievement of military dependent students, in-
7 cluding those nonprofit organizations whose programs
8 focus on improving the civic responsibility of military de-
9 pendent students and their understanding of the Federal
10 Government through direct exposure to the operations of
11 the Federal Government.

1 **SEC. 565 [Log 53946]. AMENDMENTS TO THE IMPACT AID IM-**
2 **PROVEMENT ACT OF 2012.**

3 Section 563(c) of National Defense Authorization Act
4 for Fiscal Year 2013 (Public Law 112–239; 126 Stat.
5 1748; 20 U.S.C. 6301 note) is amended—

6 (1) in paragraph (1)—

7 (A) by striking “2-year” and inserting “4-
8 year”; and

9 (B) by inserting before the period at the
10 end the following, “, except that amendment
11 made by subsection (b) to subparagraph (B) of
12 section 8002(b)(3) of the Elementary and Sec-
13 ondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.
14 7702(b)(3)(B)) shall be effective for a 2-year
15 period beginning on the date of enactment of
16 this Act”; and

17 (2) in paragraph (4)—

18 (A) by striking “The amendments” and in-
19 serting the following:

20 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The amendments”;

21 (B) by inserting “and subparagraph (B) of
22 this paragraph” after “subsection (b)”;

23 (C) by striking “2-year” and inserting “4-
24 year”;

1 (D) by inserting “and such subparagraph”
2 after “such subsection” each place it appears;
3 and

4 (E) by adding at the end the following:

5 “(B) SPECIAL RULE.—For the period be-
6 ginning January 3, 2015, and ending January
7 2, 2017, subparagraph (B) of section
8 8002(b)(3) of the Elementary and Secondary
9 Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.
10 7702(b)(3)(B)) is amended to read as follows:

11 ““(B) SPECIAL RULE.—In the case of Fed-
12 eral property eligible under this section that is
13 within the boundaries of two or more local edu-
14 cational agencies that are eligible under this
15 section, any of such agencies may ask the Sec-
16 retary to calculate (and the Secretary shall cal-
17 culate) the taxable value of the eligible Federal
18 property that is within its boundaries by—

19 ““(i) first calculating the per-acre
20 value of the eligible Federal property sepa-
21 rately for each eligible local educational
22 agency that shares the Federal property,
23 as provided in subparagraph (A)(ii);

24 ““(ii) then averaging the resulting
25 per-acre values of the eligible Federal

1 property from each eligible local edu-
2 cational agency that shares the Federal
3 property; and

4 ““(iii) then applying the average per-
5 acre value to determine the total taxable
6 value of the eligible Federal property under
7 subparagraph (A)(iii) for the requesting
8 local educational agency.’”.

1 **Subtitle H—Decorations and**
2 **Awards**

3 **SEC. 571 [Log 53350]. RETROACTIVE AWARD OF ARMY COM-**
4 **BAT ACTION BADGE.**

5 (a) **AUTHORITY TO AWARD.**—The Secretary of the
6 Army may award the Army Combat Action Badge (estab-
7 lished by order of the Secretary of the Army through
8 Headquarters, Department of the Army Letter 600–05–
9 1, dated June 3, 2005) to a person who, while a member
10 of the Army, participated in combat during which the per-
11 son personally engaged, or was personally engaged by, the
12 enemy at any time during the period beginning on Decem-
13 ber 7, 1941, and ending on September 18, 2001 (the date
14 of the otherwise applicable limitation on retroactivity for
15 the award of such decoration), if the Secretary determines
16 that the person has not been previously recognized in an
17 appropriate manner for such participation.

18 (b) **PROCUREMENT OF BADGE.**—The Secretary of
19 the Army may make arrangements with suppliers of the
20 Army Combat Action Badge so that eligible recipients of
21 the Army Combat Action Badge pursuant to subsection
22 (a) may procure the badge directly from suppliers, thereby
23 eliminating or at least substantially reducing administra-
24 tive costs for the Army to carry out this section.

1 **SEC. 572 [Log 53693]. REPORT ON NAVY REVIEW, FINDINGS,**
2 **AND ACTIONS PERTAINING TO MEDAL OF**
3 **HONOR NOMINATION OF MARINE CORPS SER-**
4 **GEANT RAFAEL PERALTA.**

5 Not later than 30 days after the date of the enact-
6 ment of this Act, the Secretary of the Navy shall submit
7 to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and
8 House of Representatives a report describing the Navy re-
9 view, findings, and actions pertaining to the Medal of
10 Honor nomination of Marine Corps Sergeant Rafael
11 Peralta. The report shall account for all evidence sub-
12 mitted with regard to the case.

1 **Subtitle I—Miscellaneous**
2 **Reporting Requirements**

3 **SEC. 581 [Log 53950]. SECRETARY OF DEFENSE REVIEW AND**
4 **REPORT ON PREVENTION OF SUICIDE**
5 **AMONG MEMBERS OF UNITED STATES SPE-**
6 **CIAL OPERATIONS FORCES.**

7 (a) REVIEW REQUIRED.—The Secretary of Defense,
8 acting through the Under Secretary of Defense for Per-
9 sonnel and Readiness and the Assistant Secretary of De-
10 fense for Special Operations and Low Intensity Conflict,
11 shall conduct a review of Department of Defense efforts
12 regarding the prevention of suicide among members of
13 United States Special Operations Forces and their de-
14 pendants.

15 (b) CONSULTATION.—In conducting the review under
16 subsection (a), the Secretary of Defense shall consult with,
17 and consider the recommendations of, the Office of Suicide
18 Prevention, the Secretaries of the military departments,
19 the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Special Operations
20 and Low Intensity Conflict, and the United States Special
21 Operations Command regarding the feasibility of imple-
22 menting, for members of United States Special Operations
23 Forces and their dependents, particular elements of the
24 Department of Defense suicide prevention policy developed
25 pursuant to section 533 of the National Defense Author-

1 ization Act for Fiscal Year 2012 (Public Law 112–81; 10
2 U.S.C. 1071 note) and section 582 of the National De-
3 fense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2013 (Public Law
4 112–239. 10 U.S.C. 1071 note).

5 (c) ELEMENTS OF REVIEW.—The review conducted
6 under subsection (a) shall specifically include an assess-
7 ment of each of the following:

8 (1) Current Armed Forces and United States
9 Special Operations Command policy guidelines on
10 the prevention of suicide among members of United
11 States Special Operations Forces and their depend-
12 ents.

13 (2) Current and direct Armed Forces and
14 United States Special Operations Command suicide
15 prevention programs and activities for members of
16 United States Special Operations Forces and their
17 dependents, including programs provided by the De-
18 fense Health Program and the Office of Suicide Pre-
19 vention and programs supporting family members.

20 (3) Current Armed Forces and United States
21 Special Operations Command strategies to reduce
22 suicides among members of United States Special
23 Operations Forces and their dependents, including
24 the cost of such strategies across the future years
25 defense program.

1 (4) Current Armed Forces and United States
2 Special Operations Command standards of care for
3 suicide prevention among members of United States
4 Special Operations Forces and their dependents, in-
5 cluding training standards for behavioral health care
6 providers to ensure that such providers receive train-
7 ing on clinical best practices and evidence-based
8 treatments as information on such practices and
9 treatments becomes available.

10 (5) The integration of mental health screenings
11 and suicide risk and prevention efforts for members
12 of United States Special Operations Forces and
13 their dependents into the delivery of primary care
14 for such members and dependents.

15 (6) The standards for responding to attempted
16 or completed suicides among members of United
17 States Special Operations Forces and their depend-
18 ents, including guidance and training to assist com-
19 manders in addressing incidents of attempted or
20 completed suicide within their units.

21 (7) The standards regarding data collection for
22 individual members of United States Special Oper-
23 ations Forces and their dependents, including re-
24 lated factors such as domestic violence and child
25 abuse.

1 (8) The means to ensure the protection of pri-
2 vacy of members of United States Special Oper-
3 ations Forces and their dependents who seek or re-
4 ceive treatment related to suicide prevention.

5 (9) The need to differentiate members of
6 United States Special Operations Forces and their
7 dependents from members of conventional forces and
8 their dependents in the development and delivery of
9 the Department of Defense suicide prevention pro-
10 gram.

11 (10) Such other matters as the Secretary of
12 Defense considers appropriate in connection with the
13 prevention of suicide among members of United
14 States Special Operations Forces and their depend-
15 ents.

16 (d) SUBMISSION OF REPORT.—Not later than 90
17 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Sec-
18 retary of Defense shall submit to the Committees on
19 Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Represent-
20 atives a report containing the results of the review con-
21 ducted under subsection (a).

1 **SEC. 582 [Log 53853]. INSPECTOR GENERAL OF THE DE-**
2 **PARTMENT OF DEFENSE REVIEW OF SEPARA-**
3 **TION OF MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES**
4 **WHO MADE UNRESTRICTED REPORTS OF**
5 **SEXUAL ASSAULT.**

6 (a) REVIEW REQUIRED.—The Inspector General of
7 the Department of Defense shall conduct a review—

8 (1) to identify all members of the Armed Forces
9 who, since January 1, 2002, were separated from
10 the Armed Forces after making an unrestricted re-
11 port of sexual assault;

12 (2) to determine the circumstances of and
13 grounds for each such separation, including—

14 (A) whether the separation was in retalia-
15 tion for or influenced by the identified member
16 making an unrestricted report of sexual assault;
17 and

18 (B) whether the identified member re-
19 quested an appeal; and

20 (3) if an identified member was separated on
21 the grounds of having a personality or adjustment
22 disorder, to determine whether the separation was
23 carried out in compliance with Department of De-
24 fense Instruction 1332.14 and any other applicable
25 Department of Defense regulations, directives, and
26 policies.

1 (b) SUBMISSION OF RESULTS AND RECOMMENDA-
2 TIONS.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the en-
3 actment of this Act, the Inspector General of the Depart-
4 ment of Defense shall submit to the Committees on Armed
5 Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives
6 the results of the review conducted under subsection (a),
7 including such recommendations as the Inspector General
8 of the Department of Defense considers necessary.

1 **SEC. 583 [Log 53724]. COMPTROLLER GENERAL REPORT RE-**
2 **GARDING MANAGEMENT OF PERSONNEL**
3 **RECORDS OF MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL**
4 **GUARD.**

5 (a) REPORT REQUIRED.—Not later than April 1,
6 2015, the Comptroller General of the United States shall
7 submit to the Committees on Armed Services of the Sen-
8 ate and the House of Representatives a report regarding
9 the management of personnel records of members of the
10 National Guard.

11 (b) ELEMENTS OF REPORT.—In preparing the report
12 under subsection (a), the Comptroller General shall con-
13 sider, at a minimum, the following:

14 (1) The appropriate Federal role and responsi-
15 bility in the management of the records of National
16 Guard members.

17 (2) The extent to which selected States have
18 digitized the records of National Guard members.

19 (3) The extent to which those States and Fed-
20 eral agencies have entered into agreements to share
21 the digitized records.

22 (4) The extent to which Federal agencies face
23 any constraints in their ability to effectively manage
24 National Guard records.

1 **Subtitle J—Other Matters**

2 **SEC. 591 [Log 53082]. INSPECTION OF OUTPATIENT RESI-**
3 **DENTIAL FACILITIES OCCUPIED BY RECOV-**
4 **ERING SERVICE MEMBERS.**

5 Section 1662(a) of the Wounded Warrior Act (title
6 XVI of Public Law 110–181; 10 U.S.C. 1071 note) is
7 amended by striking “inspected on a semiannual basis for
8 the first two years after the enactment of this Act and
9 annually thereafter” and inserting “inspected at least once
10 every two years”.

1 **SEC. 592 [Log 53271]. SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING**
2 **FULFILLING PROMISE TO LEAVE NO MEMBER**
3 **OF THE ARMED FORCES UNACCOUNTED IN**
4 **AFGHANISTAN.**

5 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following find-
6 ings:

7 (1) The United States is a country of great
8 honor and integrity.

9 (2) The United States has made a sacred prom-
10 ise to members of the Armed Forces deployed over-
11 seas in defense of the United States that their sac-
12 rifice and service will never be forgotten.

13 (3) The United States can never thank the
14 proud members of the Armed Forces enough for
15 their sacrifice and service on behalf of the United
16 States.

17 (b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-
18 gress that—

19 (1) abandoning the search efforts for members
20 of the Armed Forces who are missing or captured in
21 the line of duty now or in the future is unacceptable;

22 (2) the United States has a responsibility to
23 keep the promises made to members of the Armed
24 Forces deployed overseas in defense of the United
25 States, including the promise of the United States

1 Soldier's Creed and the Warrior Ethos, which state
2 that "I will never leave a fallen comrade"; and
3 (3) while the United States continues to transi-
4 tion leadership roles in combat operations in Af-
5 ghanistan to the people of Afghanistan, the United
6 States must continue to fulfill these important prom-
7 ises to any member of the Armed Forces who is in
8 a missing status or captured as a result of service
9 in Afghanistan now or in the future.

1 **Subtitle A—Pay and Allowances**

2 **SEC. 601 [Log 53152]. EXTENSION OF AUTHORITY TO PRO-**
3 **VIDE TEMPORARY INCREASE IN RATES OF**
4 **BASIC ALLOWANCE FOR HOUSING UNDER**
5 **CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES.**

6 Section 403(b)(7)(E) of title 37, United States Code,
7 is amended by striking “December 31, 2014” and insert-
8 ing “December 31, 2015”.

1 **Subtitle B—Bonuses and Special**
2 **and Incentive Pays**

3 **SEC. 611 [Log 53090]. ONE-YEAR EXTENSION OF CERTAIN**
4 **BONUS AND SPECIAL PAY AUTHORITIES FOR**
5 **RESERVE FORCES.**

6 The following sections of title 37, United States
7 Code, are amended by striking “December 31, 2014” and
8 inserting “December 31, 2015”:

9 (1) Section 308b(g), relating to Selected Re-
10 serve reenlistment bonus.

11 (2) Section 308c(i), relating to Selected Reserve
12 affiliation or enlistment bonus.

13 (3) Section 308d(c), relating to special pay for
14 enlisted members assigned to certain high-priority
15 units.

16 (4) Section 308g(f)(2), relating to Ready Re-
17 serve enlistment bonus for persons without prior
18 service.

19 (5) Section 308h(e), relating to Ready Reserve
20 enlistment and reenlistment bonus for persons with
21 prior service.

22 (6) Section 308i(f), relating to Selected Reserve
23 enlistment and reenlistment bonus for persons with
24 prior service.

1 (7) Section 478a(e), relating to reimbursement
2 of travel expenses for inactive-duty training outside
3 of normal commuting distance.

4 (8) Section 910(g), relating to income replace-
5 ment payments for reserve component members ex-
6 periencing extended and frequent mobilization for
7 active duty service.

1 **SEC. 612 [Log 53091]. ONE-YEAR EXTENSION OF CERTAIN**
2 **BONUS AND SPECIAL PAY AUTHORITIES FOR**
3 **HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS.**

4 (a) TITLE 10 AUTHORITIES.—The following sections
5 of title 10, United States Code, are amended by striking
6 “December 31, 2014” and inserting “December 31,
7 2015”:

8 (1) Section 2130a(a)(1), relating to nurse offi-
9 cer candidate accession program.

10 (2) Section 16302(d), relating to repayment of
11 education loans for certain health professionals who
12 serve in the Selected Reserve.

13 (b) TITLE 37 AUTHORITIES.—The following sections
14 of title 37, United States Code, are amended by striking
15 “December 31, 2014” and inserting “December 31,
16 2015”:

17 (1) Section 302e–1(f), relating to accession and
18 retention bonuses for psychologists.

19 (2) Section 302d(a)(1), relating to accession
20 bonus for registered nurses.

21 (3) Section 302e(a)(1), relating to incentive
22 special pay for nurse anesthetists.

23 (4) Section 302g(e), relating to special pay for
24 Selected Reserve health professionals in critically
25 short wartime specialties.

1 (5) Section 302h(a)(1), relating to accession
2 bonus for dental officers.

3 (6) Section 302j(a), relating to accession bonus
4 for pharmacy officers.

5 (7) Section 302k(f), relating to accession bonus
6 for medical officers in critically short wartime spe-
7 cialties.

8 (8) Section 302l(g), relating to accession bonus
9 for dental specialist officers in critically short war-
10 time specialties.

1 **SEC. 613 [Log 53092]. ONE-YEAR EXTENSION OF SPECIAL**
2 **PAY AND BONUS AUTHORITIES FOR NUCLEAR**
3 **OFFICERS.**

4 The following sections of title 37, United States
5 Code, are amended by striking “December 31, 2014” and
6 inserting “December 31, 2015”:

7 (1) Section 312(f), relating to special pay for
8 nuclear-qualified officers extending period of active
9 service.

10 (2) Section 312b(c), relating to nuclear career
11 accession bonus.

12 (3) Section 312c(d), relating to nuclear career
13 annual incentive bonus.

1 **SEC. 614 [Log 53093]. ONE-YEAR EXTENSION OF AUTHORI-**
2 **TIES RELATING TO TITLE 37 CONSOLIDATED**
3 **SPECIAL PAY, INCENTIVE PAY, AND BONUS**
4 **AUTHORITIES.**

5 The following sections of title 37, United States
6 Code, are amended by striking “December 31, 2014” and
7 inserting “December 31, 2015”:

8 (1) Section 331(h), relating to general bonus
9 authority for enlisted members.

10 (2) Section 332(g), relating to general bonus
11 authority for officers.

12 (3) Section 333(i), relating to special bonus and
13 incentive pay authorities for nuclear officers.

14 (4) Section 334(i), relating to special aviation
15 incentive pay and bonus authorities for officers.

16 (5) Section 335(k), relating to special bonus
17 and incentive pay authorities for officers in health
18 professions.

19 (6) Section 336(g), relating to contracting
20 bonus for cadets and midshipmen enrolled in the
21 Senior Reserve Officers’ Training Corps.

22 (7) Section 351(h), relating to hazardous duty
23 pay.

24 (8) Section 352(g), relating to assignment pay
25 or special duty pay.

1 (9) Section 353(i), relating to skill incentive
2 pay or proficiency bonus.

3 (10) Section 355(h), relating to retention incen-
4 tives for members qualified in critical military skills
5 or assigned to high priority units.

1 **SEC. 615 [Log 53094]. ONE-YEAR EXTENSION OF AUTHORI-**
2 **TIES RELATING TO PAYMENT OF OTHER**
3 **TITLE 37 BONUSES AND SPECIAL PAYS.**

4 The following sections of title 37, United States
5 Code, are amended by striking “December 31, 2014” and
6 inserting “December 31, 2015”:

7 (1) Section 301b(a), relating to aviation officer
8 retention bonus.

9 (2) Section 307a(g), relating to assignment in-
10 centive pay.

11 (3) Section 308(g), relating to reenlistment
12 bonus for active members.

13 (4) Section 309(e), relating to enlistment
14 bonus.

15 (5) Section 316a(g), relating to incentive pay
16 for members of precommissioning programs pur-
17 suing foreign language proficiency.

18 (6) Section 324(g), relating to accession bonus
19 for new officers in critical skills.

20 (7) Section 326(g), relating to incentive bonus
21 for conversion to military occupational specialty to
22 ease personnel shortage.

23 (8) Section 327(h), relating to incentive bonus
24 for transfer between branches of the Armed Forces.

25 (9) Section 330(f), relating to accession bonus
26 for officer candidates.

1 **Subtitle C—Commissary and Non-**
2 **appropriated Fund Instrumen-**
3 **tality Benefits and Operations**

4 **SEC. 631 [Log 53177]. REVIEW OF MANAGEMENT, FOOD, AND**
5 **PRICING OPTIONS FOR DEFENSE COM-**
6 **MISSARY SYSTEM.**

7 (a) REVIEW REQUIRED.—The Secretary of Defense
8 shall conduct a review, utilizing the services of an inde-
9 pendent organization experienced in grocery retail anal-
10 ysis, of the defense commissary system to determine the
11 qualitative and quantitative effects of—

12 (1) using variable pricing in commissary stores
13 to reduce the expenditure of appropriated funds to
14 operate the defense commissary system;

15 (2) implementing a program to make available
16 more private label products in commissary stores;

17 (3) converting the defense commissary system
18 to a nonappropriated fund instrumentality, and

19 (4) eliminating or at least reducing second-des-
20 tination funding.

21 (b) ADDITIONAL ELEMENTS OF REVIEW.—The re-
22 view required by this section also shall consider the fol-
23 lowing:

24 (1) The impact of changes to the operation of
25 the defense commissary system on commissary pa-

1 trons, in particular junior enlisted members and jun-
2 ior officers and their dependents, that would result
3 from displacing current value and name-brand prod-
4 ucts with private-label products.

5 (2) The sensitivity of commissary patrons to
6 pricing changes.

7 (3) The feasibility of generating net revenue
8 from pricing and stock assortment changes.

9 (4) The relationship of higher prices and re-
10 duced patron savings to patron usage and accom-
11 panying sales, both on a national and regional basis.

12 (5) The impact of changes to the operation of
13 the defense commissary system on industry support;
14 such as vendor stocking, promotions, discounts, and
15 merchandising activities and programs.

16 (6) The ability of the current commissary man-
17 agement and information technology systems to ac-
18 commodate changes to the existing pricing and man-
19 agement structure.

20 (7) The product category management systems
21 and expertise of the Defense Commissary Agency.

22 (8) The impact of changes to the operation of
23 the defense commissary system on military ex-
24 changes and other morale, welfare, and recreation
25 programs for members of the Armed Forces.

1 (9) The identification of management and legis-
2 lative changes that would be required in connection
3 with changes to the defense commissary system.

4 (10) An estimate of the time required to imple-
5 ment recommended changes to the current pricing
6 and management model of the defense commissary
7 system.

8 (c) SUBMISSION.—Not later than February 1, 2015,
9 the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the Committees
10 on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Rep-
11 resentatives a report containing the results of the review
12 required by this section.

1 **Subtitle D—Other Matters**

2 **SEC. 641 [Log 53627]. ANONYMOUS SURVEY OF MEMBERS OF**
3 **THE ARMED FORCES REGARDING THEIR**
4 **PREFERENCES FOR MILITARY PAY AND BEN-**
5 **EFITS.**

6 (a) SURVEY REQUIRED.—The Secretary of Defense
7 shall carry out a anonymous survey of random members
8 of the Armed Forces regarding military pay and benefits
9 for the purpose of soliciting information on the following:

10 (1) The value that members of the Armed
11 Forces place on the following forms of compensation
12 relative to one another:

13 (A) Basic pay.

14 (B) Allowances for housing and subsist-
15 ence.

16 (C) Bonuses and special pays.

17 (D) Dependent healthcare benefits.

18 (E) Healthcare benefits for retirees under
19 65 years old.

20 (F) Healthcare benefits for Medicare-eli-
21 ble retirees.

22 (G) Retirement pay.

23 (2) How the members value different levels of
24 pay or benefits, including the impact of co-payments
25 or deductibles on the value of benefits.

1 (3) Any other issues related to military pay and
2 benefits as the Secretary of Defense considers ap-
3 propriate.

4 (4) How information collected pursuant to a
5 previous paragraph varies by age, rank, dependent
6 status, and such other factors as the Secretary of
7 Defense considers appropriate.

8 (b) SUBMISSION OF RESULTS.—Upon the completion
9 of a survey conducted under this section, the Secretary
10 of Defense shall submit to Congress and make publicly
11 available a report containing the results of the survey, in-
12 cluding both the analyses and the raw data collected.

1 **Subtitle A—TRICARE and Other**
2 **Health Care Benefits**

3 **SEC. 701.[Log 53647] MENTAL HEALTH ASSESSMENTS FOR**
4 **MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1074m of title 10, United
6 States Code, is amended—

7 (1) in subsection (a)(1)—

8 (A) by redesignating subparagraph (B)
9 and (C) as subparagraph (C) and (D), respec-
10 tively; and

11 (B) by inserting after subparagraph (A)
12 the following:

13 “(B) Once during each 180-day period
14 during which a member is deployed.”; and

15 (2) in subsection (c)(1)(A)—

16 (A) in clause (i), by striking “; and” and
17 inserting a semicolon;

18 (B) by redesignating clause (ii) as clause
19 (iii); and

20 (C) by inserting after clause (i) the fol-
21 lowing:

22 “(ii) by personnel in deployed units
23 whose responsibilities include providing
24 unit health care services if such personnel
25 are available and the use of such personnel

1 for the assessments would not impair the
2 capacity of such personnel to perform
3 higher priority tasks; and”.

4 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section
5 1074m(a)(2) of title 10, United States Code, is amended
6 by striking “subparagraph (B) and (C)” and inserting
7 “subparagraph (C) and (D)”.

1 **SEC. 702.[Log 53232] CLARIFICATION OF PROVISION OF**
2 **FOOD TO FORMER MEMBERS AND DEPEND-**
3 **ENTS NOT RECEIVING INPATIENT CARE IN**
4 **MILITARY MEDICAL TREATMENT FACILITIES.**

5 Section 1078b of title 10, United States Code, is
6 amended—

7 (1) by striking “A member” each place it ap-
8 pears and inserting “A member or former member”;
9 and

10 (2) in subsection (a)(2)(C), by striking “mem-
11 ber or dependent” and inserting “member, former
12 member, or dependent”.

1 **Subtitle B—Health Care**
2 **Administration**

3 **SEC. 711. [Log 53716] COOPERATIVE HEALTH CARE AGREE-**
4 **MENTS BETWEEN THE MILITARY DEPART-**
5 **MENTS AND NON-MILITARY HEALTH CARE**
6 **ENTITIES.**

7 Section 713 of the National Defense Authorization
8 Act of 2010 (Public Law 111–84; 10 U.S.C. 1073 note)
9 is amended—

10 (1) in subsection (a), by striking “Secretary of
11 Defense” and inserting “Secretary concerned”;

12 (2) in subsection (b)—

13 (A) by striking “Secretary shall” and in-
14 serting “Secretary concerned shall”;

15 (B) in paragraph (1)(A), by inserting “if
16 the Secretary establishing such agreement is
17 the Secretary of Defense” before the semicolon;
18 and

19 (C) in paragraph (3), by inserting “or the
20 military department concerned” after “the De-
21 partment of Defense”; and

22 (3) by adding at the end the following new sub-
23 section:

24 “(e) **SECRETARY CONCERNED DEFINED.**—In this
25 section, the term ‘Secretary concerned’ means—

- 1 “(1) the Secretary of a military department; or
- 2 “(2) the Secretary of Defense.”.

1 **SEC. 712.[Log 53790] SURVEYS ON CONTINUED VIABILITY**
2 **OF TRICARE STANDARD AND TRICARE**
3 **EXTRA.**

4 Section 711(b)(2) of the National Defense Authoriza-
5 tion Act for Fiscal Year 2008 (10 U.S.C. 1073 note) is
6 amended in the matter preceding subparagraph (A)—

7 (1) by striking “on a biennial basis”; and

8 (2) by striking “paragraph (1)” and inserting
9 the following: “paragraph (1) during 2017 and
10 2020, and at such others times as requested by such
11 committees or as the Comptroller General deter-
12 mines appropriate”.

1 **SEC. 713.[Log 53844] LIMITATION ON TRANSFER OR ELIMI-**
2 **NATION OF GRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION**
3 **BILLETS.**

4 The Secretary of Defense may not transfer or elimi-
5 nate a graduate medical education billet from the military
6 medical treatment facility to which the billet is assigned
7 as of the date of the enactment of this Act unless the Sec-
8 retary—

9 (1) conducts a Department-wide review of the
10 implementation of the plan required by section 731
11 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal
12 Year 2013 (Public Law 112–239; 10 U.S.C. 1071
13 note) that is based on not less than two years of ear-
14 nying out such implementation;

15 (2) conducts an examination of the most suc-
16 cessful incentives for recruiting and retaining med-
17 ical professionals to participate in the graduate med-
18 ical education programs of the military departments;

19 (3) determines the assignment of such billets
20 based on the review and examination conducted
21 under paragraphs (1) and (2), respectively; and

22 (4) after the Secretary makes the determination
23 under paragraph (3), certifies to the congressional
24 defense committees that any proposed transfer or
25 elimination of such billets—

1 (A) meets the needs of the military depart-
2 ments and the patient population; and

3 (B) takes into account the assignment in-
4 terests of the members of the Armed Forces
5 who are participating (or who will participate)
6 in the graduate medical education programs of
7 the military departments.

1 **SEC. 714.[Log 53881] REVIEW OF MILITARY HEALTH SYS-**
2 **TEM MODERNIZATION STUDY.**

3 (a) LIMITATION.—

4 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Defense
5 may not restructure or realign a military medical
6 treatment facility until a 120-day period has elapsed
7 following the date on which the Comptroller General
8 of the United States is required to submit to the
9 congressional defense committees the report under
10 subsection (b)(3).

11 (2) REPORT.—The Secretary shall submit to
12 the congressional defense committees a report that
13 includes the following:

14 (A) During the period from 2001 to 2012,
15 for each military medical treatment facility con-
16 sidered under the modernization study directed
17 by the Resource Management Decision of the
18 Department of Defense numbered MP–D–01—

19 (i) the average daily inpatient census;

20 (ii) the average inpatient capacity;

21 (iii) the top five inpatient admission
22 diagnoses;

23 (iv) each medical specialty available;

24 (v) the average daily percent of staff-
25 ing available for each medical specialty;

1 (vi) the beneficiary population within
2 the catchment area;

3 (vii) the budgeted funding level;

4 (viii) the inpatient mental health
5 availability; and

6 (ix) the average annual inpatient care
7 directed to civilian medical facilities.

8 (B) For each military medical treatment
9 facility considered under such modernization
10 study—

11 (i) the civilian capacity by medical
12 specialty in each catchment area;

13 (ii) the distance in miles to the near-
14 est civilian emergency care department;

15 (iii) the distance in miles to the clos-
16 est civilian inpatient hospital, listed by
17 level of care and whether the facility is
18 designated a sole community hospital;

19 (iv) the availability of ambulance serv-
20 ice on the military installation and the dis-
21 tance in miles to the nearest civilian ambu-
22 lance service, including the average re-
23 sponse time to the military installation;

24 (v) an estimate of the cost to restruc-
25 ture or realign the military medical treat-

1 ment facility, including with respect to bed
2 closures and civilian personnel reductions;
3 and

4 (vi) if the military medical treatment
5 facility is restructured or realigned, an es-
6 timate of—

7 (I) the number of civilian per-
8 sonnel reductions, listed by series;

9 (II) the number of local support
10 contracts terminated; and

11 (III) the increased cost of pur-
12 chased care.

13 (C) The results of the study with respect
14 to the recommendations of the Secretary to re-
15 structure or realign military medical treatment
16 facilities.

17 (b) COMPTROLLER GENERAL REVIEW.—

18 (1) REVIEW.—The Comptroller General of the
19 United States shall review the report under sub-
20 section (a)(2).

21 (2) ELEMENTS.—The review under paragraph
22 (1) shall include the following:

23 (A) An assessment of the methodology
24 used by the Secretary of Defense in conducting
25 the study.

1 (B) An assessment of the adequacy of the
2 data used by the Secretary with respect to such
3 study.

4 (3) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after
5 the date on which the Secretary submits the report
6 under subsection (a)(2), the Comptroller General
7 shall submit to the congressional defense committees
8 a report on the review under paragraph (1).

1 **Subtitle C—Reports and Other**
2 **Matters**

3 **SEC. 721. [Log 53754] EXTENSION OF AUTHORITY FOR**
4 **JOINT DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE-DEPART-**
5 **MENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS MEDICAL FA-**
6 **CILITY DEMONSTRATION FUND.**

7 Section 1704(e) of the National Defense Authoriza-
8 tion Act for Fiscal Year 2010 (Public Law 111–84; 123
9 Stat. 2573) is amended by striking “September 30, 2015”
10 and inserting “September 30, 2016”.

1 **SEC. 722.[Log 53763] DESIGNATION AND RESPONSIBILITIES**
2 **OF SENIOR MEDICAL ADVISOR FOR ARMED**
3 **FORCES RETIREMENT HOME.**

4 (a) DESIGNATION OF SENIOR MEDICAL ADVISOR.—
5 Subsection (a) of section 1513A of the Armed Forces Re-
6 tirement Home Act of 1991 (24 U.S.C. 413a) is amend-
7 ed—

8 (1) in paragraph (1), by striking “Deputy Di-
9 rector of the TRICARE Management Activity” and
10 inserting “Deputy Director of the Defense Health
11 Agency”; and

12 (2) in paragraph (2), by striking “Deputy Di-
13 rector of the TRICARE Management Activity” both
14 places it appears and inserting “Deputy Director of
15 the Defense Health Agency”.

16 (b) CLARIFICATION OF RESPONSIBILITIES AND DU-
17 TIES OF SENIOR MEDICAL ADVISOR.—Subsection (c)(2)
18 of such section is amended by striking “health care stand-
19 ards of the Department of Veterans Affairs” and inserting
20 “nationally recognized health care standards and require-
21 ments”.

1 **SEC. 723.[Log 53936] ACQUISITION STRATEGY FOR HEALTH**
2 **CARE PROFESSIONAL STAFFING SERVICES.**

3 (a) ACQUISITION STRATEGY.—

4 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Defense
5 shall develop and carry out an acquisition strategy
6 with respect to entering into contracts for the serv-
7 ices of health care professional staff at military med-
8 ical treatment facilities.

9 (2) ELEMENTS.—The acquisition strategy
10 under paragraph (1) shall include the following:

11 (A) Identification of the responsibilities of
12 the military departments and elements of the
13 Department of Defense in carrying out such
14 strategy.

15 (B) Methods to analyze, using reliable and
16 detailed data covering the entire Department,
17 the amount of funds expended on contracts for
18 the services of health care professional staff.

19 (C) Methods to identify opportunities to
20 consolidate requirements for such services and
21 reduce cost.

22 (D) Methods to measure cost savings that
23 are realized by using such contracts instead of
24 purchased care.

25 (E) Metrics to determine the effectiveness
26 of such strategy.

1 (b) REPORT.—Not later than April 1, 2015, the Sec-
2 retary shall submit to the congressional defense commit-
3 tees a report on the status of implementing the acquisition
4 strategy under paragraph (1) of subsection (a), including
5 how each element under subparagraphs (A) through (E)
6 of paragraph (2) of such subsection are being carried out.

1 **SEC. 724.[Log 53135] PILOT PROGRAM ON MEDICATION**
2 **THERAPY MANAGEMENT UNDER TRICARE**
3 **PROGRAM.**

4 (a) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—In accordance with section
5 1092 of title 10, United States Code, the Secretary of De-
6 fense shall carry out a pilot program to evaluate the feasi-
7 bility and desirability of including medication therapy
8 management as part of the TRICARE program.

9 (b) **ELEMENTS OF PILOT PROGRAM.**—In carrying
10 out the pilot program under subsection (a), the Secretary
11 shall ensure the following:

12 (1) Patients who participate in the pilot pro-
13 gram are patients who—

14 (A) have more than one chronic condition;

15 and

16 (B) are prescribed more than one medica-
17 tion.

18 (2) Medication therapy management services
19 provided under the pilot program are focused on im-
20 proving patient use and outcomes of prescription
21 medications.

22 (3) The design of the pilot considers best com-
23 mercial practices in providing medication therapy
24 management services, including practices under the
25 prescription drug program under part D of title

1 XVIII of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395w–
2 101 et seq.).

3 (4) The pilot program includes methods to
4 measure the effect of medication therapy manage-
5 ment services on—

6 (A) patient use and outcomes of prescrip-
7 tion medications; and

8 (B) the costs of health care.

9 (c) LOCATIONS.—

10 (1) SELECTION.—The Secretary shall carry out
11 the pilot program under subsection (a) in not less
12 than three locations.

13 (2) FIRST LOCATION CRITERIA.—Not less than
14 one location selected under paragraph (1) shall meet
15 the following criteria:

16 (A) The location is a pharmacy at a mili-
17 tary medical treatment facility.

18 (B) The patients participating in the pilot
19 program at such location generally receive pri-
20 mary care services from health care providers at
21 such facility.

22 (3) SECOND LOCATION CRITERIA.—Not less
23 than one location selected under paragraph (1) shall
24 meet the following criteria:

1 (A) The location is a pharmacy at a mili-
2 tary medical treatment facility.

3 (B) The patients participating in the pilot
4 program at such location generally do not re-
5 ceive primary care services from health care
6 providers at such facility.

7 (4) THIRD LOCATION CRITERION.—Not less
8 than one location selected under paragraph (1) shall
9 be a pharmacy located at a location other than a
10 military medical treatment facility.

11 (d) DURATION.—The Secretary shall carry out the
12 pilot program under subsection (a) for a period deter-
13 mined appropriate by the Secretary that is not less than
14 two years.

15 (e) REPORT.—Not later than 30 months after the
16 date on which the Secretary commences the pilot program
17 under subsection (a), the Secretary shall submit to the
18 congressional defense committees a report on the pilot
19 program that includes—

20 (1) information on the effect of medication
21 therapy management services on—

22 (A) patient use and outcomes of prescrip-
23 tion medications; and

24 (B) the costs of health care;

1 (2) the recommendations of the Secretary with
2 respect to incorporating medication therapy manage-
3 ment into the TRICARE program; and

4 (3) such other information as the Secretary de-
5 termines appropriate.

6 (f) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

7 (1) The term “medication therapy manage-
8 ment” means professional services provided by quali-
9 fied pharmacists to patients to improve the effective
10 use and outcomes of prescription medications pro-
11 vided to the patients.

12 (2) The term “TRICARE program” has the
13 meaning given that term in section 1072 of title 10,
14 United States Code.

1 **SEC. 725.[Log 53644] REPORT ON REDUCTION OF PRIME**
2 **SERVICE AREAS.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 732 of the National De-
4 fense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2013 (Public Law
5 112-239; 126 Stat. 1816), as amended by section 701 of
6 the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year
7 2014 (Public Law 113–66), is further amended—

8 (1) by redesignating subsections (b) and (c) as
9 subsections (c) and (d), respectively; and

10 (2) by inserting after subsection (a) the fol-
11 lowing new subsection (b):

12 “(b) ADDITIONAL REPORT.—

13 “(1) IMPLEMENTATION.—Not later than 180
14 days after the date of the enactment of the National
15 Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2015, the
16 Secretary shall submit to the congressional defense
17 committees a report on the status of reducing the
18 availability of TRICARE Prime in regions described
19 in subsection (d)(1)(B).

20 “(2) MATTERS INCLUDED.—The report under
21 paragraph (1) shall include the following:

22 “(A) Details regarding the impact to af-
23 fected eligible beneficiaries with respect to the
24 reduction of the availability of TRICARE
25 Prime in regions described in subsection

1 (d)(1)(B), including, with respect to each
2 State—

3 “(i) the number of affected eligible
4 beneficiaries who, as of the date of the re-
5 port, are enrolled in TRICARE Standard;

6 “(ii) the number of affected eligible
7 beneficiaries who, as of the date of the re-
8 port; changed residences to remain eligible
9 for TRICARE Prime in a new region; and

10 “(iii) the number of affected eligible
11 beneficiaries who, as of the date of the re-
12 port, have made an election described in
13 subsection (c)(1).

14 “(B) The estimated increase in annual
15 costs per each affected eligible beneficiary
16 counted under subparagraph (A) as compared
17 to the estimated annual costs if a contract de-
18 scribed in subsection (a)(2)(A) did not affect
19 the eligibility of the beneficiary for TRICARE
20 Prime.

21 “(C) A description of the efforts of the
22 Secretary to assess—

23 “(i) the impact on access to health
24 care for affected eligible beneficiaries; and

1 “(ii) the satisfaction of such bene-
2 ficiaries with respect to access to health
3 care under TRICARE Standard.

4 “(D) A description of the estimated cost
5 savings realized by reducing the availability of
6 TRICARE Prime in regions described in sub-
7 section (d)(1)(B).”.

8 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Subsection
9 (b)(3)(A) of such section is amended by striking “sub-
10 section (c)(1)(B)” and inserting “subsection (d)(1)(B)”.

1 **SEC. 726.[Log 53945] COMPTROLLER GENERAL REPORT ON**
2 **TRANSITION OF CARE FOR POST-TRAUMATIC**
3 **STRESS DISORDER OR TRAUMATIC BRAIN IN-**
4 **JURY.**

5 (a) REPORT.—Not later than April 1, 2015, the
6 Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to
7 the congressional defense committees and Committees on
8 Veterans' Affairs of the House of Representatives and the
9 Senate a report that assesses the transition of care for
10 post-traumatic stress disorder or traumatic brain injury.

11 (b) MATTERS INCLUDED.—The report under sub-
12 section (a) shall include the following:

13 (1) The programs, policies, and regulations that
14 affect the transition of care, particularly with re-
15 spect to individuals who are taking or have been pre-
16 scribed antidepressants, stimulants, antipsychotics,
17 mood stabilizers, anxiolytic, depressants, or
18 hallucinogens.

19 (2) Upon transitioning to care furnished by the
20 Secretary of Veterans Affairs, the extent to which
21 the pharmaceutical treatment plan of an individual
22 changes, and the factors determining such changes.

23 (3) The extent to which the Secretary of De-
24 fense and the Secretary of Veterans Affairs have
25 worked together to identify and apply best pharma-
26 ceutical treatment practices.

1 (4) A description of the off-formulary waiver
2 process of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and the
3 extent to which the process is applied efficiently at
4 the treatment level.

5 (5) The benefits and challenges of combining
6 the formularies across the Department of Defense
7 and the Department of Veterans Affairs.

8 (6) Any other issues that the Comptroller Gen-
9 eral determines appropriate.

10 (c) TRANSITION OF CARE DEFINED.—In this section,
11 the term “transition of care” means the transition of an
12 individual from receiving treatment furnished by the Sec-
13 retary of Defense to treatment furnished by the Secretary
14 of Veterans Affairs.

1 **Subtitle C—Other Matters**

2 **SEC. 1421. [Log 53872] AUTHORITY FOR TRANSFER OF**
3 **FUNDS TO JOINT DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE-**
4 **DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS MED-**
5 **ICAL FACILITY DEMONSTRATION FUND FOR**
6 **CAPTAIN JAMES A. LOVELL HEALTH CARE**
7 **CENTER, ILLINOIS.**

8 (a) **AUTHORITY FOR TRANSFER OF FUNDS.**—Of the
9 funds authorized to be appropriated by section 1406 and
10 available for the Defense Health Program for operation
11 and maintenance, \$146,857,000 may be transferred by the
12 Secretary of Defense to the Joint Department of Defense—
13 Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Facility Dem-
14 onstration Fund established by subsection (a)(1) of sec-
15 tion 1704 of the National Defense Authorization Act for
16 Fiscal Year 2010 (Public Law 111–84; 123 Stat. 2571).
17 For purposes of subsection (a)(2) of such section 1704,
18 any funds so transferred shall be treated as amounts au-
19 thorized and appropriated specifically for the purpose of
20 such a transfer.

21 (b) **USE OF TRANSFERRED FUNDS.**—For the pur-
22 poses of subsection (b) of such section 1704, facility oper-
23 ations for which funds transferred under subsection (a)
24 may be used are operations of the Captain James A.
25 Lovell Federal Health Care Center, consisting of the

1 North Chicago Veterans Affairs Medical Center, the Navy
2 Ambulatory Care Center, and supporting facilities des-
3 igned as a combined Federal medical facility under an
4 operational agreement covered by section 706 of the Dun-
5 can Hunter National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal
6 Year 2009 (Public Law 110–417; 122 Stat. 4500).

1 **SEC. 1422. [Log 53873] AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIA-**
2 **TIONS FOR ARMED FORCES RETIREMENT**
3 **HOME.**

4 There is hereby authorized to be appropriated for fis-
5 cal year 2015 from the Armed Forces Retirement Home
6 Trust Fund the sum of \$63,400,000 for the operation of
7 the Armed Forces Retirement Home.

DIRECTIVE REPORT LANGUAGE

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DIVISION A—DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE AUTHORIZATIONS

TITLE V—MILITARY PERSONNEL POLICY

ITEMS OF SPECIAL INTEREST

Briefing on Sexual Assault Prevention and Response

The committee directs the Secretary of Defense to brief the House Committee on Armed Services on the status of the implementation of the sexual assault provisions in the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2012 (Public Law 112-81); the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2013 (Public Law 112-239); the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2014 (Public Law 113-66); and the initiatives announced in a memorandum by the Secretary of Defense on August 14, 2013. The briefing should include the extent to which the services have implemented policies, procedures, training, and education as required by Department of Defense policies, programs, and regulations. The briefing should be conducted not later than March 1, 2015.

Comptroller General Review of Army National Guard Recruiting Practices

The committee is concerned with the management and oversight of Army National Guard recruiting practices. The committee notes a series of issues over the past 5 to 8 years with recruiter and enlistment bonus irregularities, and the ongoing criminal investigation of the Guard Recruiter Assistance Program (GRAP). The committee is concerned that regulations and policies set forth by the Secretary of the Army and the National Guard Bureau are not being adhered to consistently across all of the States and territories.

The committee directs the Comptroller General of the United States to conduct a review of the Army and Army National Guard recruiting regulations, policies, and procedures to determine if the Army and Army National Guard have processes in place to ensure that these regulations and policies are being adhered to by recruiters in the States and territories. The review shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

(1) An assessment of how the Army and Army National Guard ensure that eligibility criteria for enlistment are enforced in a selected number of States and the impact this may have on the recruiting mission;

(2) An assessment of the number of persons who enlist, complete basic and advanced individual training, and remain in the Army National Guard for their initial term of service;

(3) An assessment of the extent to which persons who have contracted with a specified enlistment bonus, but were not authorized to receive a bonus by policy or regulation;

(4) An assessment of the average length of time between when a person enlists in the Army National Guard and the person completes the initial entry training required to be deployable;

(5) An assessment of the contracting vehicles being used by the Army National Guard to support recruiters and how the Army National Guard ensures such contracting vehicles comply with Department of Defense, Army policies and regulations; and,

(6) Recommendations for the leadership of the Army and the National Guard Bureau to improve and enforce compliance of regulations and policies with respect to recruiting.

The committee directs the Comptroller General to report the results of the assessment to the congressional defense committees by June 1, 2015.

Comptroller General Review of Army Reserve and Army National Guard Non-Availability for Mobilization

The committee is concerned with the high percentage of soldiers in the Army Reserve and the Army National Guard that are not available for mobilization. The Army Reserves has approximately 25 percent of its force non-available for mobilization, with the majority due to medical non-availability. The Army National Guard has almost 30 percent of its force non-available for mobilization, with the two largest categories being medically non-available and those who have not completed entry level training. As the active Army reduces its end strength to potentially 420,000 soldiers, the readiness and availability of the Reserve Component to maintain its operational focus becomes even more critical. While the Reserve Components have made significant contributions to Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom over the last 13 years, only about half of their medical non-available population has ever deployed. The committee is concerned with the efforts of the Army Reserve and the Army National Guard to manage the personnel readiness of their force.

Therefore, the committee directs the Comptroller General of the United States to conduct a review of the Army Reserve and Army National Guard non-available population to:

(1) Determine the extent to which programs, policies, and regulations are being followed;

(2) Assess the management of such forces to minimize the impact to unit and individual deployments;

(3) Evaluate the process by which the Reserves and Guard are able to determine the extent and length of the non-availability of those who have a medical profile and when such individuals should be assessed for a medical board determination;

(4) Assess whether the current process to assign individuals to units who have not completed their entry level training is the best course of action to man the Army National Guard; and

(5) Determine whether there are any systematic issues that result in a significant non-available population.

The Comptroller General is required to submit a report containing the results of the review to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives, not later than June 1, 2015. The committee requests the Comptroller General also provide a briefing to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives on the initial findings of the review by April 1, 2015.

Comptroller General Review Regarding Department of Defense and Military Departments Professionalism and Ethics Programs

The committee commends the Secretary of Defense for focusing on military ethics, character, and leadership within the Department of Defense. Recently, the Secretary established a senior adviser for military professionalism for the Department who will report directly to the Secretary on issues related to military ethics, character, and leadership. Considering the high-profile lapses involving senior leaders, the committee remains concerned about how this new position will be executed and the roles, responsibilities, and effectiveness of the military services' ethics programs. The committee, therefore, directs the Comptroller General of the United States to initiate a comprehensive review of the Department of Defense and military departments programs on professionalism, ethics, and integrity in the armed services for officers and enlisted service members. The Comptroller General should submit a report of the Comptroller's findings to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives by not later than August 31, 2015. Additionally, the committee requests the Comptroller brief the committees on preliminary observations by April 1, 2015. As part of the review, the Comptroller General should include an evaluation of military service assessment tools and report on the extent to which those tools capture and assess professionalism, ethics, and integrity issues.

Continuum of Service and Reserve Component Duty Statuses

The committee notes the effort the military services have initiated to create greater flexibility for movement between the Active and Reserve Components, commonly referred to as continuum of service. The services have determined that this personnel initiative is key to allowing greater flexibility in the force. However, the committee notes that the current number of duty statuses for the Reserve Components is a hindrance to this initiative. The Commission on the National Guard and Reserve and the Commission on the Structure of the Air Force both recognized this as a barrier to fully implementing a continuum of service and recommended the Department of Defense reduce the number of duty statuses from 35 to approximately 6. The committee directs the Secretary of Defense to submit to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives, not later than January 1, 2015, a proposal that would reduce the duty status of the

Reserve Components to no more than eight pay statutes to assist in creating greater flexibility for the Reserve Components to be more interoperable with the Active Components.

Medal of Honor Process

The committee is encouraged that the Secretary of Defense has directed a comprehensive review of military decorations and awards. After 13 years of combat, it is imperative that we ensure service members have been properly recognized for their sacrifices and actions given the changed combat environment. The committee urges the Secretary to pay particular attention to the Medal of Honor process to ensure that individuals nominated for this award have not been hindered by delayed submissions or lack of timely action. The committee directs the Secretary of Defense as part of the comprehensive military decoration and awards review, to review the nomination process, the valor requirements, and the amount of time taken from submission of a nomination to approval by the Secretary of Defense to enhance the medal awards process. The review should also specifically review the Medal of Honor process to ensure that the nomination process, valor requirements, and timeliness of the process do not unfairly penalize service members. The Secretary of Defense should submit the results of the review, along with the specific focus on the Medal of Honor process, to the Senate Committee on Armed Services and the House Committee on Armed Services by June 1, 2015.

Modular Airborne Fire Fighting System Firefighting Mission

The committee recognizes the important capability of the Air National Guard and the Air Force Reserve Modular Airborne Fire Fighting System (MAFFS) to assist the National Forest Service and State and local agencies fight forest fires. The committee believes that the National Guard should continue in its role as first responders to civil authorities, since the Guard is trained and ready to respond to natural disasters and emergencies regardless of State lines. The committee has become aware that, as a result of members who were killed while on a mission, the Department of Defense is reviewing a policy change dictating which authorities the Air National Guard should be activated under while in support of these missions. The committee directs the Secretary of Defense to provide the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives, 60 days prior to any change in policy, a review and assessment of the factors used to make a determination of the appropriate duty status for members of the Air National Guard under either title 10 or title 32; the benefits the member may be afforded under title 10 or title 32 status; the average response time under title 10 or title 32 status; any degradation of the readiness of the MAFFS as a result of different duty statuses; and any other issues that were considered to make a determination on the status under which MAFFS is used to response to a natural disaster or emergency. In addition, any proposed policy change shall not take effect until after the end of the 30-day calendar period beginning on the date on which the Secretary provides

notice of the proposed policy change to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives.

Transition Assistance Program

The committee applauds the Department of Defense's revamped Transition Assistance Program (TAP) to provide assistance to career ready military members transitioning to a new career or further education following military separation. The new Transition–Goals, Plans, Success (Transition–GPS) is an enhanced program established to assist members with their transition as the military draws down. Transition–GPS gives the Department the flexibility and authorities required to execute its role in providing information, counseling, tools, and training for service members to transition from the military. While the committee stands by the good work the Department has done through Transition–GPS, the committee encourages the Secretary of Defense to continuously improve and build the program. The committee supports the conclusions reached by the March 2014 Government Accountability Office report, *Transitioning Veterans: Improved Oversight Needed to Enhance Implementation of Transition Assistance Program* (GAO-14-144), and is specifically concerned with any lack of ability for individual unit commanders to participate in TAP and continued weakness in outcome measures, making it difficult to attribute results to TAP. The committee therefore directs the Secretary of Defense to comply with the recommendations for executive action listed in the GAO report.

U.S. Air Force Academy Reductions

The committee recognizes the critical role of the U.S. Air Force Academy (USAFA) in educating and cultivating the next generation of leaders for the U.S. Air Force. The committee is aware that the Air Force Academy Superintendent, due to budget reductions, is intending to eliminate 10 academic majors and multiple permanent staff positions, to include 40 Academy Military Trainers (AMTs). This will result in a reduction of Academy Military Trainers to 1 per squadron of approximately 100 cadets. AMTs provide critical services to cadets, including counseling, mentorship, and professional training essential to the development of Air Force leaders. Additionally, AMTs foster a foundation of trust within the cadet squadrons which is critical to developing and inculcating the ethics and moral values required for service in the military, as well as ensuring the well-being of the cadets attending the Academy. The committee finds this reduction troubling as the average age of a cadet is younger than the average Air Force enlistee. The committee is concerned that a reduction of AMTs unnecessarily jeopardizes the culture in the cadet squadrons by reducing resources for a cadet's professional development and personal well-being, which may lead to an increase in misconduct and sexual assaults. Prior to any reduction in staff at the Air Force Academy, the committee directs the Secretary of the Air Force to provide the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives, not later than

January 1, 2015, an assessment justifying the need to cut permanent military staff in the cadet squadrons. The assessment should include the factors the Secretary used to make a determination for personnel cuts, how the Air Force Academy will ensure the professional development and personal well-being of cadets if these cuts are enacted, and any other determinations that were considered in the reduction of programs and degrees offered by Air Force Academy.

U.S. Special Operations Command Education Initiatives

The committee recognizes the vital role of education in developing the next generation of leaders and subject matter experts within the U.S. Special Operations Command (USSOCOM). The committee notes the unique role of the Joint Special Operations University (JSOU) in developing Special Operations Forces (SOF) specific strategic and operational leadership within USSOCOM. The committee is aware of an expansion effort by the JSOU to include accreditation for bachelor and master's degree programs. The committee also notes the increase in advanced civilian education initiatives USSOCOM has taken over the past 2 years by increasing attendance of officers at the Naval Post Graduate School, creating a special master's degree program through Kansas State University for officers attending the Command and General Staff College and sending officers to Johns Hopkins University to obtain a Master of Arts in Legislative Affairs. The committee understands the dynamic situations in which SOF operate at the tactical, operation, and strategic level and recognizes that there are requirements for higher education to increase opportunities for success.

However, the committee is concerned with the validation of the requirement for JSOU to offer degrees, as well as the increased education requirements for officers that cannot be accomplished through the parent service. There are numerous degree-granting programs Department-wide, as well as partnership opportunities with civilian institutions which may meet mission requirements. Therefore, the committee directs the Secretary of Defense in coordination with the service secretaries to provide the congressional defense committees, not later than March 1, 2015, an assessment of the validity of the course and degree requirements at JSOU, including USSOCOM's master's degree requirements for officers. The assessment of JSOU should include an analysis of current and proposed JSOU programs, including which programs can be accomplished at service schools or civilian institutions, and justification for JSOU to receive degree-granting authority. The assessment of USSOCOM's master's degree requirements should include a review of the positions coded as required to hold a master's degree, the number of officers who are required to attend fully funded master's degree programs on an annual basis to meet the position requirements, and the historical promotion rates and command selection rates for SOF officers who hold master's degrees from fully funded programs and serve in these master's degree coded positions. The assessment should also include the costs associated

with JSOU receiving degree-granting authority across the Future Years Defense Program.

TITLE VII—HEALTH CARE PROVISIONS

ITEMS OF SPECIAL INTEREST

Deployment Health for Women

The committee recognizes the unique work that the Army's Women's Health Task Force (WHTF) is doing to address the specific gender health needs of women in the military. The task force assessed and made recommendations on six areas of concern for women in a deployed environment. These include women's health education, barriers to seeking care, uniform and personal protective gear design, psychosocial effects of deployment, effects of deployment on children and families, and sexual harassment and assault response and prevention. Women's deployment issues are not unique to this force, which is why the committee required a Government Accountability Office (GAO) review of women-specific health services and treatment for female members of the Armed Forces in the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2012 (Public Law 112-81).

The committee believes that the information, expertise and experience of the WHTF, as well as the assessment by the GAO, should be used as the basis to ensure that the specific gender health needs of women in all types of deployed environments are being met. The committee directs the Secretary of Defense to conduct an assessment on the specific gender health needs of women in a deployed environment to ensure standardization of education and training in women's hygiene and gynecological management to enhance readiness for female members; ensure that women's health issues are included in leadership training and educational programs; provide Clinical Practice Guidelines to establish a standardized level of care in a deployed environment; and ensure that all services have the ability to provide a minimum level of education and training to address the specific gender health needs of women in a deployed environment.

The committee directs the Secretary of Defense to report the results of the assessment and implementation of policies or programs necessary to meet the specific gender health needs of women in various deployed environments to the congressional defense committees by April 31, 2015. The assessment should also address the research gaps identified by the Women's Health Research Interest Group, and what efforts have been undertaken to develop a repository of peer-reviewed research articles related to health issues for female service member, particularly those in a deployed environment.

The Department of Defense has provided the committee with three submissions on its plans for implementation of the Defense Health Agency (DHA), which became operational on October 1, 2013. As the Government Accountability Office (GAO) noted in its review of the first two DHA implementation plans, the Department's submissions did not include critical information concerning the DHA's staffing requirements, cost estimates, and performance measures. In its response to the GAO's report, the Department stated that it would address many of these issues in its third submission to Congress. However, as the GAO noted in subsequent testimony, the Department's third submission did not fully incorporate this information. In addition, the Department's third submission did not include sufficient information concerning its education and training shared service, including a full explanation of its purpose and goals. As a full and complete implementation plan for the DHA is necessary to help ensure the Department achieves the goals of its reform of the Military Health System (MHS), the committee directs the Secretary of Defense to submit a report to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives by January 31, 2015, containing the following information:

- (1) Performance measures for each objective and shared service that are clear, quantifiable, objective, and include a baseline assessment of current performance, and if such information has not yet been developed, a timeline for developing and submitting such measures in the future;
- (2) An explanation of the potential sources of cost savings from the implementation of its shared services projects, including estimates of cost savings for each product line within the respective shared services;
- (3) A baseline assessment of the current number of military, civilian, and contractor personnel currently working within the MHS headquarters and an estimate for DHA at full operating capability, including estimates of changes in contractor full-time equivalents; and
- (4) An explanation of the purpose and goals of the medical education and training shared service with regard to its role in improving the cost efficiency of delivering training, including the challenges it will address, the practices it will put in place to address these challenges, and the resulting cost savings.

Review of Defense Health Agency Progress

After years of studies, reviews, and assessments of the governance structure of the Military Health System (MHS), the Department of Defense established the Defense Health Agency (DHA) on October 1, 2013. The DHA assumed responsibility for, among other things, enterprise-wide common tasks handled by the Army, the Navy, and the Air Force medical departments, known as shared services, as well as their common business and clinical processes. The changes to the design of the system along with enhanced accountability, will, according to the Department, enable continuous performance improvement and reduce the projected cost growth of the Defense Health Program. While the

Department has reported significant progress in the establishment of this new agency, as well as efficiencies achieved, it remains unclear what specific improvements have been accomplished and if the Department remains on track to attain its savings and performance goals. Therefore, as this new agency reaches a year in existence, the committee directs the Comptroller General of the United States to review the progress that the Department has made in achieving its goals within this year. More specifically, the review should include at a minimum a review of the Department's progress in (1) achieving cost savings, (2) developing performance measures, and (3) determining accurate staffing levels. The Comptroller General should issue a final report to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives by September 30, 2015, and brief preliminary results to the committees by April 1, 2015.

Review of TRICARE Reimbursement Rules for Sole Community Hospitals

The committee recognizes the vital role of sole community hospitals (SCH) in providing high-quality health care for service members stationed at rural military installations. The committee is aware of recent TRICARE reimbursement policy changes for SCHs and would like to understand the impact of the change on access to care for service members and their families. Therefore, the committee directs the Comptroller General of the United States to review TRICARE's change in reimbursement rules for sole community hospitals. The review should include at a minimum:

- (1) The extent to which TRICARE's change in reimbursement rules for SCH affects access to these facilities by service members and their families;
- (2) The extent that TRICARE's change in reimbursement rules for SCH compares to the Medicare change in reimbursement rules for SCHs; and
- (3) The extent to which the Defense Health Agency is monitoring the effects of TRICARE reimbursement rules changes on SCH and the subsequent access to care for service members and dependents.

The Comptroller General should submit the results of the review to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives not later than March 1, 2015.