H.R. 4435—FY15 NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION BILL

SUBCOMMITTEE ON MILITARY PERSONNEL

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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:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>FY 2014 Authorized</th>
<th>FY 2015 Request</th>
<th>Committee Recommendation</th>
<th>FY 2015 Request</th>
<th>Change from FY 2014 Authorization</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Army</td>
<td>520,000</td>
<td>490,000</td>
<td>490,000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-30,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Navy</td>
<td>323,600</td>
<td>323,600</td>
<td>323,600</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USMC</td>
<td>190,200</td>
<td>184,100</td>
<td>184,100</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-6,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Air Force</td>
<td>327,600</td>
<td>310,900</td>
<td>310,900</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-16,700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DOD</td>
<td>1,361,400</td>
<td>1,308,600</td>
<td>1,308,600</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-52,800</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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:

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

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:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>FY 2014 Authorized</th>
<th>FY 2015 Request</th>
<th>Committee Recommendation</th>
<th>FY 2015 Request</th>
<th>FY 2014 Authorized</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Army National Guard</td>
<td>32,060</td>
<td>31,385</td>
<td>31,385</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-675</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Army Reserve</td>
<td>16,261</td>
<td>16,261</td>
<td>16,261</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Naval Reserve</td>
<td>10,159</td>
<td>9,973</td>
<td>9,973</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-186</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marine Corps Reserve</td>
<td>2,261</td>
<td>2,261</td>
<td>2,261</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Air National Guard</td>
<td>14,734</td>
<td>14,704</td>
<td>14,704</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Air Force Reserve</td>
<td>2,911</td>
<td>2,830</td>
<td>2,830</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DOD Total</td>
<td>78,386</td>
<td>77,414</td>
<td>77,414</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-972</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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:

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

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:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>FY 2014 Authorized</th>
<th>FY 2015 Request</th>
<th>Committee Recommendation</th>
<th>Change from FY 2015 Request</th>
<th>Change from FY 2014 Authorized</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Army National Guard</td>
<td>1,600</td>
<td>1,600</td>
<td>1,600</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Air National Guard</td>
<td>350</td>
<td>350</td>
<td>350</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Army Reserve</td>
<td>595</td>
<td>595</td>
<td>595</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Air Force Reserve</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DOD Total</td>
<td>2,635</td>
<td>2,635</td>
<td>2,635</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>FY 2014 Authorized</th>
<th>FY 2015 Request</th>
<th>Committee Recommendation</th>
<th>FY 2015 Request</th>
<th>FY 2014 Authorized</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Army National Guard</td>
<td>17,000</td>
<td>17,000</td>
<td>17,000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Army Reserve</td>
<td>13,000</td>
<td>13,000</td>
<td>13,000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Naval Reserve</td>
<td>6,200</td>
<td>6,200</td>
<td>6,200</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marine Corps Reserve</td>
<td>3,000</td>
<td>3,000</td>
<td>3,000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Air National Guard</td>
<td>16,000</td>
<td>16,000</td>
<td>16,000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Air Force Reserve</td>
<td>14,000</td>
<td>14,000</td>
<td>14,000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DOD Total</td>
<td>69,200</td>
<td>69,200</td>
<td>69,200</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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—COMMISARY 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
Subtitle A—Active Forces

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

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

(1) The Army, 490,000.

(2) The Navy, 323,600.

(3) The Marine Corps, 184,100.

(4) The Air Force, 310,900.
SEC. 402 [Log 53083]. REVISIONS IN PERMANENT ACTIVE DUTY END STRENGTH MINIMUM LEVELS.

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

“(1) For the Army, 490,000.

“(2) For the Navy, 323,600.

“(3) For the Marine Corps, 184,100.

“(4) For the Air Force, 310,900.”.
Subtitle B—Reserve Forces

SEC. 411 [Log 53084]. END STRENGTHS FOR SELECTED RESERVE.

(a) In General.—The Armed Forces are authorized strengths for Selected Reserve personnel of the reserve components as of September 30, 2015, as follows:


(2) The Army Reserve, 202,000.

(3) The Navy Reserve, 57,300.


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


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

(b) End Strength Reductions.—The end strengths prescribed by subsection (a) for the Selected Reserve of any reserve component shall be proportionately reduced by—

(1) the total authorized strength of units organized to serve as units of the Selected Reserve of such component which are on active duty (other than for training) at the end of the fiscal year; and

(2) the total number of individual members not in units organized to serve as units of the Selected
Reserve of such component who are on active duty
(other than for training or for unsatisfactory participa-
tion in training) without their consent at the end
of the fiscal year.

(c) END STRENGTH INCREASES.—Whenever units or
individual members of the Selected Reserve of any reserve
component are released from active duty during any fiscal
year, the end strength prescribed for such fiscal year for
the Selected Reserve of such reserve component shall be
increased proportionately by the total authorized strengths
of such units and by the total number of such individual
members.
SEC. 412 [Log 53085]. END STRENGTHS FOR RESERVES ON ACTIVE DUTY IN SUPPORT OF THE RESERVES.

Within the end strengths prescribed in section 411(a), the reserve components of the Armed Forces are authorized, as of September 30, 2015, the following number of Reserves to be serving on full-time active duty or full-time duty, in the case of members of the National Guard, for the purpose of organizing, administering, recruiting, instructing, or training the reserve components:

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

(2) The Army Reserve, 16,261.

(3) The Navy Reserve, 9,973.

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

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

(6) The Air Force Reserve, 2,830.
SEC. 413 [Log 53086]. END STRENGTHS FOR MILITARY TECHNICIANS (DUAL STATUS).

The minimum number of military technicians (dual status) as of the last day of fiscal year 2015 for the reserve components of the Army and the Air Force (notwithstanding section 129 of title 10, United States Code) shall be the following:

(1) For the Army National Guard of the United States, 27,210.
(2) For the Army Reserve, 7,895.
(3) For the Air National Guard of the United States, 21,792.
(4) For the Air Force Reserve, 9,789.
SEC. 414 [Log 53087]. FISCAL YEAR 2015 LIMITATION ON
NUMBER OF NON-DUAL STATUS TECHNICIANS.

(a) LIMITATIONS.—

(1) NATIONAL GUARD.—Within the limitation provided in section 10217(c)(2) of title 10, United States Code, the number of non-dual status technicians employed by the National Guard as of September 30, 2015, may not exceed the following:

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

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

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

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

(b) NON-DUAL STATUS TECHNICIANS DEFINED.—In this section, the term “non-dual status technician” has the meaning given that term in section 10217(a) of title 10, United States Code.
SEC. 415 [Log 53088]. MAXIMUM NUMBER OF RESERVE PERSONNEL AUTHORIZED TO BE ON ACTIVE DUTY FOR OPERATIONAL SUPPORT.

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

(1) The Army National Guard of the United States, 17,000.
(2) The Army Reserve, 13,000.
(3) The Navy Reserve, 6,200.
(4) The Marine Corps Reserve, 3,000.
(5) The Air National Guard of the United States, 16,000.
(6) The Air Force Reserve, 14,000.
Subtitle C—Authorization of Appropriations

SEC. 421 [Log 53089]. MILITARY PERSONNEL.

(a) Authorization of Appropriations.—Funds are hereby authorized to be appropriated for fiscal year 2015 for the use of the Armed Forces and other activities and agencies of the Department of Defense for expenses, not otherwise provided for, for military personnel, as specified in the funding table in section 4401.

(b) Construction of Authorization.—The authorization of appropriations in subsection (a) supersedes any other authorization of appropriations (definite or indefinite) for such purpose for fiscal year 2015.
Subtitle A—Officer Personnel
Policy Generally

SEC. 501 [Log 53706]. AUTHORITY TO LIMIT CONSIDERATION FOR EARLY RETIREMENT BY SELECTIVE RETIREMENT BOARDS TO PARTICULAR WARRANT OFFICER YEAR GROUPS AND SPECIALTIES.

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

(1) by redesignating paragraph (2) as paragraph (3);

(2) by designating the second sentence of paragraph (1) as paragraph (2); and

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

(A) by striking “the list shall include each” and inserting “the list shall include—

“(A) the name of each”;

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

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

“(B) with respect to a group of warrant officers designated under subparagraph (A) who are in a particular grade and competitive category, only those warrant officers in that grade and competitive cat-
egory who are also in a particular year group or specialty, or any combination thereof determined by the Secretary.”. 
SEC. 502 [Log 53808]. RELIEF FROM LIMITS ON PERCENT-

AGE OF OFFICERS WHO MAY BE RECO-

MMENDED FOR DISCHARGE DURING A FIS-

CAL YEAR USING ENHANCED AUTHORITY

FOR SELECTIVE EARLY DISCHARGES.

Section 638a(d) of title 10, United States Code, is ame-

ndered—

(1) by striking paragraph (3); and

(2) by redesignating paragraphs (4) and (5) as

paragraphs (3) and (4), respectively.
SEC. 503 [Log 53702]. REPEAL OF REQUIREMENT FOR SUBMISSION TO CONGRESS OF ANNUAL REPORTS ON JOINT OFFICER MANAGEMENT AND PROMOTION POLICY OBJECTIVES FOR JOINT OFFICERS.

(a) REPEAL OF ANNUAL REPORTS.—

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

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

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

and

(B) by striking subsection (b).

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections at the beginning of chapter 38 of such title is amended by striking the item relating to section 667.
SEC. 504 [Log 53734]. OPTIONS FOR PHASE II OF JOINT PROFESSIONAL MILITARY EDUCATION.

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

“consisting of—

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

“(B) a senior level service course of at least ten months that has been designated and certified by the Secretary of Defense as a joint professional military education course.”.
SEC. 505 [Log 53827]. REQUIRED CONSIDERATION OF CERTAIN ELEMENTS OF COMMAND CLIMATE IN PERFORMANCE APPRAISALS OF COMMANDING OFFICERS.

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

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

(2) a victim of criminal activity, including sexual assault, can report the criminal activity without fear of retaliation, including ostracism and group pressure from other members of the command.
Subtitle B—Reserve Component
Personnel Management

SEC. 511 [Log 53743]. 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.

(a) Retention of Certain First Lieutenants and Lieutenants (Junior Grade) Following Non-selection for Promotion.—Subsection (a)(1) of section 14701 of title 10, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking “A reserve officer of” and inserting “(A) A reserve officer of the Army, Navy, Air Force, or Marine Corps described in subparagraph (B) who is required to be removed from the reserve active-status list under section 14504 of this title, or a reserve officer of”;

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

(3) by adding at the end the following new subparagraphs:

“(B) A reserve officer covered by this subparagraph is a reserve officer of the Army, Air Force, or Marine
Corps who holds the grade of first lieutenant, or a reserve officer of the Navy who holds the grade of lieutenant (junior grade), and who—

“(i) is a health professions officer; or

“(ii) is actively pursuing an undergraduate program of education leading to a baccalaureate degree.

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

(b) Retention of Health Professions Officers.—Such section is further amended—

(1) by redesignating subsection (b) as subsection (e); and

(2) by inserting after subsection (a) the following new subsection (b):

“(b) Continuation of Health Professions Officers.—(1) Notwithstanding subsection (a)(6), a health professions officer obligated to a period of service incurred under section 16201 of this title who is required to be removed from the reserve active-status list under section 14504, 14505, 14506, or 14507 of this title and who has not completed a service obligation incurred under section 16201 of this title shall be retained on the reserve active-status list until the completion of such service obligation
and then discharged, unless sooner retired or discharged under another provision of law.

“(2) The Secretary concerned may waive the applicability of paragraph (1) to any officer if the Secretary determines that completion of the service obligation of that officer is not in the best interest of the service.

“(3) A health professions officer who is continued on the reserve active-status list under this subsection who is subsequently promoted or whose name is on a list of officers recommended for promotion to the next higher grade is not required to be discharged or retired upon completion of the officer’s service obligation. Such officer may continue on the reserve active-status list as other officers of the same grade unless separated under another provision of law.”.
Subtitle C—General Service

Authorities

SEC. 521 [Log 53698]. PROCEDURES FOR JUDICIAL REVIEW OF MILITARY PERSONNEL DECISIONS RELATING TO CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS.

(a) AVAILABILITY OF JUDICIAL REVIEW; LIMITATIONS.—

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

“§ 1560. Judicial review of decisions relating to correction of military records

“(a) Availability of Judicial Review.—

“(1) In general.—Pursuant to sections 1346 and 1491 of title 28 and chapter 7 of title 5, any person adversely affected by a records correction final decision may obtain judicial review of the decision in a court with jurisdiction to hear the matter.

“(2) Records correction final decision defined.—In this section, the term ‘records correction final decision’ means any of the following decisions:

“(A) A final decision issued by the Secretary concerned pursuant to section 1552 of this title.
“(B) A final decision issued by the Secretary of a military department or the Secretary of Homeland Security pursuant to section 1034(g) of this title.

“(C) A final decision issued by the Secretary of Defense pursuant to section 1034(h) of this title.

“(D) A final decision issued by the Secretary concerned pursuant to section 1554a of this title.

“(b) Exhaustion of Administrative Remedies.—

“(1) General Rule.—Except as provided in paragraphs (3) and (4), judicial review of a matter that could be subject to correction under a provision of law specified in subsection (a)(2) may not be obtained under this section or any other provision of law unless—

“(A) the petitioner has requested a correction under sections 1552 or 1554a of this title (including such a request in a matter arising under section 1034 of this title); and

“(B) the Secretary concerned has rendered a final decision denying that correction in whole or in part.
“(2) WHISTLEBLOWER CASES.—When the final decision of the Secretary concerned is subject to review by the Secretary of Defense under section 1034(h) of this title, the petitioner is not required to seek such review before obtaining judicial review, but if the petitioner seeks such review, judicial review may not be sought until the earlier of the following occurs:

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

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

“(3) CLASS ACTIONS.—If judicial review of a records correction final decision is sought, and the petitioner for such judicial review also seeks to bring a class action with respect to a matter for which the petitioner requested a correction under section 1552 of this title (including a request in a matter arising under section 1034 of this title) and the court issues an order certifying a class in the case, paragraphs (1) and (2) do not apply to any member of the certified class (other than the petitioner) with respect to any matter covered by a claim for which the class is certified.
“(4) Timeliness.—Paragraph (1) shall not apply if the records correction final decision of the Secretary concerned is not issued by the date that is 18 months after the date on which the petitioner requests a correction.

“(e) Statutes of Limitation.—

“(1) Six years from final decision.—A records correction final decision (other than in a matter to which paragraph (2) applies) is not subject to judicial review under this section or otherwise subject to review in any court unless petition for such review is filed in a court not later than six years after the date of the records correction final decision.

“(2) Six years for certain claims that may result in payment of money.—(A) In a case of a records correction final decision described in subparagraph (B), the records correction final decision (or the portion of such decision described in such subparagraph) is not subject to judicial review under this section or otherwise subject to review in any court unless petition for such review is filed in a court before the end of the six-year period that began on the date of discharge, retirement, release from active duty, or death while on active duty, of
the person whose military records are the subject of
the correction request. Such period does not include
any time between the date of the filing of the re-
quest for correction of military records leading to
the records correction final decision and the date of
the final decision.

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

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

“(ii) chapter 73 of this title.

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

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

“1560. Judicial review of decisions.”.
(b) Effect of Denial of Request for Correction of Records When Prohibited Personnel Action Alleged.—

(1) Notice of Denial; Procedures for Judicial Review.—Subsection (g) of section 1034 of such title is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

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

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

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

(2) Secretary of Defense Review; Notice of Denial.—Subsection (h) of such section is amended—

(A) by inserting “(1)” before “Upon the completion of all”; and
(B) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(2) The submittal of a matter to the Secretary of Defense by the member or former member under paragraph (1) must be made within 90 days of the receipt by the member or former member of the final decision of the Secretary of the military department concerned in the matter. In any case in which the final decision of the Secretary of Defense results in denial, in whole or in part, of any requested correction of the record of the member or former member, the Secretary of Defense shall provide the member or former member—

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

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

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

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

(B) by inserting after subsection (h) the following new subsection (i):
“(i) Judicial Review.—(1) A decision of the Secretary of Defense under subsection (h) shall be subject to judicial review only as provided in section 1560 of this title.

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

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

(c) Effect of Denial of Other Requests for Correction of Military Records.—Section 1552 of such title is amended by adding at the end the following new subsections:

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

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

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

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

(d) JUDICIAL REVIEW OF CORRECTIONS RECOMMENDED BY THE PHYSICAL DISABILITY BOARD OF REVIEW.—Section 1554a of such title is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsection (f) as subsection (h); and

(2) by inserting after subsection (e) the following new subsections (f) and (g):

“(f) RECORD OF DECISION AND NOTIFICATION.—In any case in which the final decision of the Secretary concerned results in denial, in whole or in part, of any requested correction of the record of the member or former member, the Secretary shall provide to the member or former member—

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

“(2) a written notification of the availability of judicial review of the decision pursuant to section 1560 of this title and the time period for obtaining such review in accordance with the applicable statute of limitations.
“(g) Judicial Review.—A decision by the Secretary concerned under this section shall be subject to judicial review only as provided in section 1560 of this title.”.

(e) Effective Date and Application.—

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

(2) Treatment of Existing Cases.—This section and the amendments made by this section do not affect the authority of any court to exercise jurisdiction over any case that was properly before the court before the effective date specified in paragraph (1).

(f) Implementation.—The Secretary of the military department concerned and, in the case of the Coast Guard, the Secretary of the Department in which the Coast Guard is operating may prescribe regulations, and interim guidance before prescribing such regulations, to 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.
SEC. 522 [Log 53738]. ADDITIONAL REQUIRED ELEMENTS OF TRANSITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.

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

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

(2) by inserting after subsection (b) the following new subsection (c):

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

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

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

“(B) courses of post-secondary education appropriate for the member, courses of post-secondary education compatible with the member’s education goals, and instruction on how to finance the member’s post-secondary education.

“(2) Instruction in the benefits under laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs and in other subjects determined to be appropriate by the Secretary concerned.”
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(b) **DEADLINE FOR IMPLEMENTATION.**—The program carried out under section 1144 of title 10, United States Code, shall comply with the requirements of subsection (c) of such section, as added by subsection (a), by not later than April 1, 2016.
SEC. 523. EXTENSION OF AUTHORITY TO CONDUCT CAREER FLEXIBILITY PROGRAMS.


(b) Conforming Amendments to Reporting Requirements.—Subsection (k) of section 533 of the Duncan Hunter National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2009, as amended by section 531(c) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2012, is amended—

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

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

SEC. 524 [Log 53847]. PROVISION OF INFORMATION TO MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES ON PRIVACY RIGHTS RELATING TO RECEIPT OF MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES.

(a) Provision of Information Required.—The Secretaries of the military departments shall ensure that the information described in subsection (b) is provided—

(1) to each officer candidate during initial training;

(2) to each recruit during basic training; and

(3) to other members of the Armed Forces at such times as the Secretary of Defense considers appropriate.

(b) Required Information.—The information required to be provided under subsection (a) shall include information on the applicability of Department of Defense Directive 6025.18 and other regulations regarding privacy prescribed pursuant to the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (Public Law 104–191) to records regarding a member of the Armed Forces seeking and receiving mental health services.
Subtitle D—Military Justice, Including Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence Prevention and Response

SEC. 531 [Log 53870]. IMPROVED DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE INFORMATION REPORTING AND COLLECTION OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE INCIDENTS INVOLVING MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES.

(a) DATA REPORTING AND COLLECTION IMPROVEMENTS.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense shall develop a comprehensive management plan to address deficiencies in the reporting of information on incidents of domestic violence involving members of the Armed Forces for inclusion in the Department of Defense database on domestic violence incidents required by section 1562 of title 10, United States Code, to ensure that the database provides an accurate count of domestic violence incidents and any consequent disciplinary action.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 543(a) of the Ike Skelton National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2011 (Public Law 111–383; 10 U.S.C. 1562 note) is amended by striking paragraph (1).
SEC. 532 [Log 53901]. ADDITIONAL DUTY FOR JUDICIAL PROCEEDINGS PANEL REGARDING USE OF MENTAL HEALTH RECORDS BY DEFENSE DURING PRELIMINARY HEARING AND COURT-MARTIAL PROCEEDINGS.

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

(1) the impact of the use of mental health records by the defense during the preliminary hearing conducted under section 832 of title 10, United States Code (article 32 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice), and during court-martial proceedings; and

(2) the use of mental health records in civilian criminal legal proceedings in order to identify any significant discrepancies between the two legal systems.

(b) SUBMISSION OF RESULTS.—The judicial proceedings panel shall include the results of the review and assessment in one of the reports required by section 576(c)(2)(B) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2013.
SEC. 533 [Log 53968]. APPLICABILITY OF SEXUAL ASSAULT PREVENTION AND RESPONSE AND RELATED MILITARY JUSTICE ENHANCEMENTS TO MILITARY SERVICE ACADEMIES.

The Secretary of the military department concerned and, in the case of the Coast Guard Academy, the Secretary of the Department in which the Coast Guard is operating shall ensure that the provisions of title XVII of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2014 (Public Law 113–66; 127 Stat. 950), including amendments made by that title, apply to the United States Military Academy, the Naval Academy, the Air Force Academy, and the Coast Guard Academy.
Subtitle E—Military Family Readiness

SEC. 541 [Log 53722]. EARLIER DETERMINATION OF DEPENDENT STATUS WITH RESPECT TO TRANSITIONAL COMPENSATION FOR DEPENDENTS OF MEMBERS SEPARATED FOR DEPENDENT ABUSE.

Section 1059(d)(4) of title 10, United States Code, is amended by striking “as of the date on which the individual described in subsection (b) is separated from active duty” and inserting “as of the date on which the separation action is initiated by a commander of the individual described in subsection (b)”.

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

(a) Policy for Standard Suicide Data Collection, Reporting, and Assessment.—The Secretary of Defense shall prescribe a policy for the development of a standard method for collecting, reporting, and assessing suicide data and suicide-attempt data involving members of the Armed Forces, including reserve components thereof, and their dependents in order to improve the consistency and comprehensiveness of—

(1) the suicide prevention policy developed pursuant to section 582 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2013 (Public Law 112–239. 10 U.S.C. 1071 note); and

(2) the suicide prevention and resilience program for the National Guard and Reserves established pursuant to section 10219 of title 10, United States Code.

(b) Submission of Policy and Congressional Briefing.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense shall submit the policy developed under subsection (a) to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives. At the request of the committees, the Secretary also shall brief such committees on the policy.
and the implementation status of the standardized suicide
data collection, reporting and assessment method.

(c) Consultation and Implementation.—In the
case of the suicide prevention and resilience program for
the National Guard and Reserves—

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

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

(d) Dependent Defined.—In this section, the
term “dependent”, with respect to a member of the Armed
Forces, means a person described in section 1072(2) of
title 10, United States Code, except that, in the case of
a parent or parent-in-law of the member, the income re-
quirements of subparagraph (E) of such section do not
apply.
SEC. 543 [Log 53102]. PROTECTION OF CHILD CUSTODY ARRANGEMENTS FOR PARENTS WHO ARE MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES.

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

"SEC. 208. CHILD CUSTODY PROTECTION.

"(a) RESTRICTION ON TEMPORARY CUSTODY ORDER.—If a court renders a temporary order for custodial responsibility for a child based solely on a deployment or anticipated deployment of a parent who is a servicemember, then the court shall require that, upon the return of the servicemember from deployment, the custody order that was in effect immediately preceding the temporary order shall be reinstated, unless the court finds that such a reinstatement is not in the best interest of the child, except that any such finding shall be subject to subsection (b).

"(b) LIMITATION ON CONSIDERATION OF MEMBER’S DEPLOYMENT IN DETERMINATION OF CHILD’S BEST INTEREST.—If a motion or a petition is filed seeking a permanent order to modify the custody of the child of a servicemember, no court may consider the absence of the servicemember by reason of deployment, or the possibility..."
of deployment, as the sole factor in determining the best
interest of the child.
“(c) No Federal Jurisdiction or Right of Action or Removal.—Nothing in this section shall create
a Federal right of action or otherwise give rise to Federal jurisdiction or create a right of removal.
“(d) Preemption.—In any case where State law ap-
licable to a child custody proceeding involving a tem-
portary order as contemplated in this section provides a
higher standard of protection to the rights of the parent
who is a deploying servicemember than the rights provided
under this section with respect to such temporary order,
the appropriate court shall apply the higher State stand-
ard.
“(e) Deployment Defined.—In this section, the
term ‘deployment’ means the movement or mobilization of
a servicemember to a location for a period of longer than
60 days and not longer than 540 days pursuant to tem-
porary or permanent official orders—
“(1) that are designated as unaccompanied;
“(2) for which dependent travel is not author-
ized; or
“(3) that otherwise do not permit the move-
ment of family members to that location.”.
(b) Clerical Amendment.—The table of contents in section 1(b) of such Act is amended by adding at the end of the items relating to title II the following new item:

“208. Child custody protection.”.
Subtitle F—Education and Training Opportunities

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

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

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

(c) AIR FORCE ACADEMY.—Section 9345a(a) of such title is amended by striking “two weeks” and inserting “four weeks”.
Subtitle G—Defense Dependents’ Education

SEC. 561 [Log 53793]. CONTINUATION OF AUTHORITY TO ASSIST LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCIES THAT BENEFIT DEPENDENTS OF MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES AND DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE CIVILIAN EMPLOYEES.

(a) Assistance to Schools With Significant Numbers of Military Dependent Students.—Of the amount authorized to be appropriated for fiscal year 2015 by section 301 and available for operation and maintenance for Defense-wide activities as specified in the funding table in section 4301, $25,000,000 shall be available only for the purpose of providing assistance to local educational agencies under subsection (a) of section 572 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2006 (Public Law 109–163; 20 U.S.C. 7703b).

(b) Local Educational Agency Defined.—In this section, the term “local educational agency” has the meaning given that term in section 8013(9) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7713(9)).
SEC. 562 [Log 53862]. AUTHORITY TO EMPLOY NON-UNITED STATES CITIZENS AS TEACHERS IN DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE OVERSEAS DEPENDENTS’ SCHOOL SYSTEM.

Section 2(2)(A) of the Defense Department Overseas Teachers Pay and Personnel Practices Act (20 U.S.C. 901(2)(A)) is amended by inserting before the comma at the end the following: “or, in the case of a teaching position that involves instruction in the host-nation language, a local national when a citizen of the United States is not reasonably available to provide such instruction.”
SEC. 563 [Log 53755]. EXPANSION OF FUNCTIONS OF THE
ADVISORY COUNCIL ON DEPENDENTS' EDUCATION TO INCLUDE DOMESTIC DEPENDENT
ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS.

(a) Expansion of Functions.—Subsection (c) of section 1411 of the Defense Dependents' Education Act of 1978 (20 U.S.C. 929) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by inserting “, and of the domestic dependent elementary and secondary school system established under section 2164 of title 10, United States Code,” after “of the defense dependents’ education system”; and

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

(b) Membership of Council.—Subsection (a)(1)(B) of such section is amended—

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

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

SEC. 564. SUPPORT FOR EFFORTS TO IMPROVE ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT AND TRANSITION OF MILITARY DEPENDENT STUDENTS.

The Secretary of Defense may make grants to non-profit organizations that provide services to improve the academic achievement of military dependent students, including those nonprofit organizations whose programs focus on improving the civic responsibility of military dependent students and their understanding of the Federal Government through direct exposure to the operations of the Federal Government.

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

(1) in paragraph (1)—

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

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

(2) in paragraph (4)—

(A) by striking “The amendments” and inserting the following:

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The amendments”;

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

(C) by striking “2-year” and inserting “4-year”;
(D) by inserting “and such subparagraph” after “such subsection” each place it appears; and

(E) by adding at the end the following:

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

‘‘(B) SPECIAL RULE.—In the case of Federal property eligible under this section that is within the boundaries of two or more local educational agencies that are eligible under this section, any of such agencies may ask the Secretary to calculate (and the Secretary shall calculate) the taxable value of the eligible Federal property that is within its boundaries by—

‘‘(i) first calculating the per-acre value of the eligible Federal property separately for each eligible local educational agency that shares the Federal property, as provided in subparagraph (A)(ii);

‘‘(ii) then averaging the resulting per-acre values of the eligible Federal
property from each eligible local educational agency that shares the Federal property; and

“(iii) then applying the average per-acre value to determine the total taxable value of the eligible Federal property under subparagraph (A)(iii) for the requesting local educational agency.’.”
Subtitle H—Decorations and Awards

SEC. 571 [Log 53350]. RETROACTIVE AWARD OF ARMY COMBAT ACTION BADGE.

(a) AUTHORITY TO AWARD.—The Secretary of the Army may award the Army Combat Action Badge (established by order of the Secretary of the Army through Headquarters, Department of the Army Letter 600–05–1, dated June 3, 2005) 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 (the date of the otherwise applicable limitation on retroactivity for the award of such decoration), if the Secretary determines that the person has not been previously recognized in an appropriate manner for such participation.

(b) PROCUREMENT OF BADGE.—The Secretary of the Army may make arrangements with suppliers of the Army Combat Action Badge so that eligible recipients of the Army Combat Action Badge pursuant to subsection (a) may procure the badge directly from suppliers, thereby eliminating or at least substantially reducing administrative costs for the Army to carry out this section.
SEC. 572 [Log 53693]. REPORT ON NAVY REVIEW, FINDINGS, AND ACTIONS PERTAINING TO MEDAL OF HONOR NOMINATION OF MARINE CORPS SERGEANT RAFAEL PERALTA.

Not later than 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Navy shall submit to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and House of Representatives a report describing the Navy review, findings, and actions pertaining to the Medal of Honor nomination of Marine Corps Sergeant Rafael Peralta. The report shall account for all evidence submitted with regard to the case.
Subtitle I—Miscellaneous

Reporting Requirements

SEC. 581 [Log 53950]. SECRETARY OF DEFENSE REVIEW AND REPORT ON PREVENTION OF SUICIDE AMONG MEMBERS OF UNITED STATES SPECIAL OPERATIONS FORCES.

(a) REVIEW REQUIRED.—The Secretary of Defense, acting through the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness and the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Special Operations and Low Intensity Conflict, shall conduct a review of Department of Defense efforts regarding the prevention of suicide among members of United States Special Operations Forces and their dependents.

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

(c) Elements of Review.—The review conducted under subsection (a) shall specifically include an assessment of each of the following:

(1) Current Armed Forces and United States Special Operations Command policy guidelines on the prevention of suicide among members of United States Special Operations Forces and their dependents.

(2) Current and direct Armed Forces and United States Special Operations Command suicide prevention programs and activities for members of United States Special Operations Forces and their dependents, including programs provided by the Defense Health Program and the Office of Suicide Prevention and programs supporting family members.

(3) Current Armed Forces and United States Special Operations Command strategies to reduce suicides among members of United States Special Operations Forces and their dependents, including the cost of such strategies across the future years defense program.
(4) Current Armed Forces and United States Special Operations Command standards of care for suicide prevention among members of United States Special Operations Forces and their dependents, including training standards for behavioral health care providers to ensure that such providers receive training on clinical best practices and evidence-based treatments as information on such practices and treatments becomes available.

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

(6) The standards for responding to attempted or completed suicides among members of United States Special Operations Forces and their dependents, including guidance and training to assist commanders in addressing incidents of attempted or completed suicide within their units.

(7) The standards regarding data collection for individual members of United States Special Operations Forces and their dependents, including related factors such as domestic violence and child abuse.
(8) The means to ensure the protection of privacy of members of United States Special Operations Forces and their dependents who seek or receive treatment related to suicide prevention.

(9) The need to differentiate members of United States Special Operations Forces and their dependents from members of conventional forces and their dependents in the development and delivery of the Department of Defense suicide prevention program.

(10) Such other matters as the Secretary of Defense considers appropriate in connection with the prevention of suicide among members of United States Special Operations Forces and their dependents.

(d) Submission of Report.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives a report containing the results of the review conducted under subsection (a).

(a) Review Required.—The Inspector General of the Department of Defense shall conduct a review—

(1) 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;

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

(A) whether the separation was in retaliation for or influenced by the identified member making an unrestricted report of sexual assault; and

(B) whether the identified member requested an appeal; and

(3) if an identified member was separated on the grounds of having a personality or adjustment disorder, to determine whether the separation was carried out in compliance with Department of Defense Instruction 1332.14 and any other applicable Department of Defense regulations, directives, and policies.
(b) SUBMISSION OF RESULTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Inspector General of the Department of Defense shall submit to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives the results of the review conducted under subsection (a), including such recommendations as the Inspector General of the Department of Defense considers necessary.
SEC. 583 [Log 53724]. COMPTROLLER GENERAL REPORT REGARDING MANAGEMENT OF PERSONNEL RECORDS OF MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL GUARD.

(a) REPORT REQUIRED.—Not later than April 1, 2015, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives a report regarding the management of personnel records of members of the National Guard.

(b) ELEMENTS OF REPORT.—In preparing the report under subsection (a), the Comptroller General shall consider, at a minimum, the following:

(1) The appropriate Federal role and responsibility in the management of the records of National Guard members.

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

(3) The extent to which those States and Federal agencies have entered into agreements to share the digitized records.

(4) The extent to which Federal agencies face any constraints in their ability to effectively manage National Guard records.
Subtitle J—Other Matters

SEC. 591 [Log 53082]. INSPECTION OF OUTPATIENT RESIDENTIAL FACILITIES OCCUPIED BY RECOVERING SERVICE MEMBERS.

Section 1662(a) of the Wounded Warrior Act (title XVI of Public Law 110–181; 10 U.S.C. 1071 note) is amended by striking “inspected on a semiannual basis for the first two years after the enactment of this Act and annually thereafter’’ and inserting “inspected at least once every two years’’.
SEC. 592 [Log 53271]. SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING
FULFILLING PROMISE TO LEAVE NO MEMBER
OF THE ARMED FORCES UNACCOUNTED IN
AFGHANISTAN.

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

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

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

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

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

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

(2) the United States has a responsibility to
keep the promises made to members of the Armed
Forces deployed overseas in defense of the United
States, including the promise of the United States
Soldier’s Creed and the Warrior Ethos, which state that “I will never leave a fallen comrade”; and

(3) while the United States continues to transition leadership roles in combat operations in Afghanistan to the people of Afghanistan, the United States must continue to fulfill these important promises to any member of the Armed Forces who is in a missing status or captured as a result of service in Afghanistan now or in the future.
Subtitle A—Pay and Allowances

SEC. 601 [Log 53152]. EXTENSION OF AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE TEMPORARY INCREASE IN RATES OF BASIC ALLOWANCE FOR HOUSING UNDER CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES.

Section 403(b)(7)(E) of title 37, United States Code, is amended by striking “December 31, 2014” and inserting “December 31, 2015”.
Subtitle B—Bonuses and Special and Incentive Pays

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

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

(1) Section 308b(g), relating to Selected Reserve reenlistment bonus.

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

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

(4) Section 308g(f)(2), relating to Ready Reserve enlistment bonus for persons without prior service.

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

(6) Section 308i(f), relating to Selected Reserve enlistment and reenlistment bonus for persons with prior service.
(7) Section 478a(e), relating to reimbursement of travel expenses for inactive-duty training outside of normal commuting distance.

(8) Section 910(g), relating to income replacement payments for reserve component members experiencing extended and frequent mobilization for active duty service.
SEC. 612 [Log 53091]. ONE-YEAR EXTENSION OF CERTAIN
BONUS AND SPECIAL PAY AUTHORITIES FOR
HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

(4) Section 302g(e), relating to special pay for
Selected Reserve health professionals in critically
short wartime specialties.
(5) Section 302h(a)(1), relating to accession bonus for dental officers.

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

(7) Section 302k(f), relating to accession bonus for medical officers in critically short wartime specialties.

(8) Section 302l(g), relating to accession bonus for dental specialist officers in critically short wartime specialties.
SEC. 613 [Log 53092]. ONE-YEAR EXTENSION OF SPECIAL PAY AND BONUS AUTHORITIES FOR NUCLEAR OFFICERS.

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

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

(2) Section 312b(e), relating to nuclear career accession bonus.

(3) Section 312c(d), relating to nuclear career annual incentive bonus.
SEC. 614 [Log 53093]. ONE-YEAR EXTENSION OF AUTHORITY RELATING TO TITLE 37 CONSOLIDATED SPECIAL PAY, INCENTIVE PAY, AND BONUS AUTHORITIES.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

(8) Section 352(g), relating to assignment pay or special duty pay.
(9) Section 353(i), relating to skill incentive pay or proficiency bonus.

(10) Section 355(h), relating to retention incentives for members qualified in critical military skills or assigned to high priority units.
SEC. 615 [Log 53094]. ONE-YEAR EXTENSION OF AUTHORITY RELATING TO PAYMENT OF OTHER TITLE 37 BONUSES AND SPECIAL PAYS.

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

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

(2) Section 307a(g), relating to assignment incentive pay.

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

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

(5) Section 316a(g), relating to incentive pay for members of precommissioning programs pursuing foreign language proficiency.

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

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

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

(9) Section 330(f), relating to accession bonus for officer candidates.
Subtitle C—Commissary and Non-appropriated Fund Instrumentality Benefits and Operations

SEC. 631 [Log 53177]. REVIEW OF MANAGEMENT, FOOD, AND PRICING OPTIONS FOR DEFENSE COMMISSARY SYSTEM.

(a) REVIEW REQUIRED.—The Secretary of Defense shall conduct a review, utilizing the services of an independent organization experienced in grocery retail analysis, of the defense commissary system to determine the qualitative and quantitative effects of—

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

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

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

(4) eliminating or at least reducing second-destination funding.

(b) ADDITIONAL ELEMENTS OF REVIEW.—The review required by this section also shall consider the following:

(1) The impact of changes to the operation of the defense commissary system on commissary pa-
trons, in particular junior enlisted members and junior officers and their dependents, that would result from displacing current value and name-brand products with private-label products.

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

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

(4) The relationship of higher prices and reduced patron savings to patron usage and accompanying sales, both on a national and regional basis.

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

(6) The ability of the current commissary management and information technology systems to accommodate changes to the existing pricing and management structure.


(8) The impact of changes to the operation of the defense commissary system on military exchanges and other morale, welfare, and recreation programs for members of the Armed Forces.
(9) The identification of management and legislative changes that would be required in connection with changes to the defense commissary system.

(10) An estimate of the time required to implement recommended changes to the current pricing and management model of the defense commissary system.

(c) SUBMISSION.—Not later than February 1, 2015, the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives a report containing the results of the review required by this section.
Subtitle D—Other Matters

SEC. 641. ANONYMOUS SURVEY OF MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES REGARDING THEIR PREFERENCES FOR MILITARY PAY AND BENEFITS.

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

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

(A) Basic pay.

(B) Allowances for housing and subsistence.

(C) Bonuses and special pays.

(D) Dependent healthcare benefits.

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

(F) Healthcare benefits for Medicare-eligible retirees.

(G) Retirement pay.

(2) How the members value different levels of pay or benefits, including the impact of co-payments or deductibles on the value of benefits.
(3) Any other issues related to military pay and benefits as the Secretary of Defense considers appropriate.

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

(b) SUBMISSION OF RESULTS.—Upon the completion of a survey conducted under this section, the Secretary of Defense shall submit to Congress and make publicly available a report containing the results of the survey, including both the analyses and the raw data collected.
Subtitle A—TRICARE and Other Health Care Benefits

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

(a) In General.—Section 1074m of title 10, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)(1)—

(A) by redesignating subparagraph (B) and (C) as subparagraph (C) and (D), respectively; and

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

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

(2) in subsection (c)(1)(A)—

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

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

(C) by inserting after clause (i) the following:

“(ii) by personnel in deployed units whose responsibilities include providing unit health care services if such personnel are available and the use of such personnel
for the assessments would not impair the
capacity of such personnel to perform
higher priority tasks; and”.

(b) **Conforming Amendment.**—Section 1074m(a)(2) of title 10, United States Code, is amended by striking “subparagraph (B) and (C)” and inserting “subparagraph (C) and (D)”. 
SEC. 702. CLARIFICATION OF PROVISION OF FOOD TO FORMER MEMBERS AND DEPENDENTS NOT RECEIVING INPATIENT CARE IN MILITARY MEDICAL TREATMENT FACILITIES.

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

(1) by striking “A member” each place it appears and inserting “A member or former member”; and

(2) in subsection (a)(2)(C), by striking “member or dependent” and inserting “member, former member, or dependent”.

Subtitle B—Health Care Administration

SEC. 711. [Log 53716] COOPERATIVE HEALTH CARE AGREEMENTS BETWEEN THE MILITARY DEPARTMENTS AND NON-MILITARY HEALTH CARE ENTITIES.

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

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

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) by striking “Secretary shall” and inserting “Secretary concerned shall”;

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

(C) in paragraph (3), by inserting “or the military department concerned” after “the Department of Defense”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(e) Secretary Concerned Defined.—In this section, the term ‘Secretary concerned’ means—
“(1) the Secretary of a military department; or
“(2) the Secretary of Defense.”.
SEC. 712. SURVEYS ON CONTINUED VIABILITY OF TRICARE STANDARD AND TRICARE EXTRA.

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

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

(2) by striking “paragraph (1)” and inserting the following: “paragraph (1) during 2017 and 2020, and at such others times as requested by such committees or as the Comptroller General determines appropriate”.


SEC. 713. LIMITATION ON TRANSFER OR ELIMINATION OF GRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION BILLETS.

The Secretary of Defense may not transfer or eliminate a graduate medical education billet from the military medical treatment facility to which the billet is assigned as of the date of the enactment of this Act unless the Secretary—

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

(2) conducts an examination of the most successful incentives for recruiting and retaining medical professionals to participate in the graduate medical education programs of the military departments;

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

(4) after the Secretary makes the determination under paragraph (3), certifies to the congressional defense committees that any proposed transfer or elimination of such billets—
(A) meets the needs of the military departments and the patient population; and

(B) takes into account the assignment interests of the members of the Armed Forces who are participating (or who will participate) in the graduate medical education programs of the military departments.
SEC. 714. REVIEW OF MILITARY HEALTH SYSTEM MODERNIZATION STUDY.

(a) LIMITATION.—

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

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

(A) During the period from 2001 to 2012, for each military medical treatment facility considered under the modernization study directed by the Resource Management Decision of the Department of Defense numbered MP–D–01—

(i) the average daily inpatient census;

(ii) the average inpatient capacity;

(iii) the top five inpatient admission diagnoses;

(iv) each medical specialty available;

(v) the average daily percent of staffing available for each medical specialty;
(vi) the beneficiary population within
the catchment area;
(vii) the budgeted funding level;
(viii) the inpatient mental health
availability; and
(ix) the average annual inpatient care
directed to civilian medical facilities.

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

(i) the civilian capacity by medical
specialty in each catchment area;
(ii) the distance in miles to the nearest
civilian emergency care department;
(iii) the distance in miles to the closest
civilian inpatient hospital, listed by
level of care and whether the facility is
designated a sole community hospital;
(iv) the availability of ambulance serv-
ice on the military installation and the dis-
tance in miles to the nearest civilian ambu-
lance service, including the average re-
sponse time to the military installation;
(v) an estimate of the cost to restruct-
ture or realign the military medical treat-
ment facility, including with respect to bed
closures and civilian personnel reductions;
and
(vi) if the military medical treatment
facility is restructured or realigned, an es-
timate of—

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

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

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

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

(b) COMPTROLLER GENERAL REVIEW.—

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

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

(A) An assessment of the methodology
used by the Secretary of Defense in conducting
the study.
(B) An assessment of the adequacy of the data used by the Secretary with respect to such study.

(3) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date on which the Secretary submits the report under subsection (a)(2), the Comptroller General shall submit to the congressional defense committees a report on the review under paragraph (1).
Subtitle C—Reports and Other Matters

SEC. 721. [Log 53754] EXTENSION OF AUTHORITY FOR JOINT DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE-DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS MEDICAL FACILITY DEMONSTRATION FUND.

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

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

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

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

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

(b) CLARIFICATION OF RESPONSIBILITIES AND DU-
TIES OF SENIOR MEDICAL ADVISOR.—Subsection (c)(2)
of such section is amended by striking “health care stand-
ards of the Department of Veterans Affairs” and inserting
“nationally recognized health care standards and require-
ments”.
SEC. 723. (Log 53936) ACQUISITION STRATEGY FOR HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONAL STAFFING SERVICES.

(a) Acquisition Strategy.—

(1) In general.—The Secretary of Defense shall develop and carry out an acquisition strategy with respect to entering into contracts for the services of health care professional staff at military medical treatment facilities.

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

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

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

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

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

(E) Metrics to determine the effectiveness of such strategy.
(b) REPORT.—Not later than April 1, 2015, the Secretary shall submit to the congressional defense committees a report on the status of implementing the acquisition strategy under paragraph (1) of subsection (a), including how each element under subparagraphs (A) through (E) of paragraph (2) of such subsection are being carried out.
SEC. 724. [Log 53135] PILOT PROGRAM ON MEDICATION THERAPY MANAGEMENT UNDER TRICARE PROGRAM.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—In accordance with section 1092 of title 10, United States Code, the Secretary of Defense shall carry out a pilot program to evaluate the feasibility and desirability of including medication therapy management as part of the TRICARE program.

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

(1) Patients who participate in the pilot program are patients who—

(A) have more than one chronic condition; and

(B) are prescribed more than one medication.

(2) Medication therapy management services provided under the pilot program are focused on improving patient use and outcomes of prescription medications.

(3) The design of the pilot considers best commercial practices in providing medication therapy management services, including practices under the prescription drug program under part D of title
XVIII of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395w–101 et seq.).

(4) The pilot program includes methods to measure the effect of medication therapy management services on—

(A) patient use and outcomes of prescription medications; and

(B) the costs of health care.

(e) LOCATIONS.—

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

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

(A) The location is a pharmacy at a military medical treatment facility.

(B) The patients participating in the pilot program at such location generally receive primary care services from health care providers at such facility.

(3) SECOND LOCATION CRITERIA.—Not less than one location selected under paragraph (1) shall meet the following criteria:
(A) The location is a pharmacy at a military medical treatment facility.

(B) The patients participating in the pilot program at such location generally do not receive primary care services from health care providers at such facility.

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

(d) DURATION.—The Secretary shall carry out the pilot program under subsection (a) for a period determined appropriate by the Secretary that is not less than two years.

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

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

(A) patient use and outcomes of prescription medications; and

(B) the costs of health care;
(2) the recommendations of the Secretary with respect to incorporating medication therapy management into the TRICARE program; and

(3) such other information as the Secretary determines appropriate.

(f) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) The term “medication therapy management” means professional services provided by qualified pharmacists to patients to improve the effective use and outcomes of prescription medications provided to the patients.

(2) The term “TRICARE program” has the meaning given that term in section 1072 of title 10, United States Code.
SEC. 725. REPORT ON REDUCTION OF PRIME SERVICE AREAS.

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

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

(2) by inserting after subsection (a) the following new subsection (b):

“(b) ADDITIONAL REPORT.—

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

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

“(A) Details regarding the impact to affected eligible beneficiaries with respect to the reduction of the availability of TRICARE Prime in regions described in subsection
(d)(1)(B), including, with respect to each State—

“(i) the number of affected eligible beneficiaries who, as of the date of the report, are enrolled in TRICARE Standard;

“(ii) the number of affected eligible beneficiaries who, as of the date of the report; changed residences to remain eligible for TRICARE Prime in a new region; and

“(iii) the number of affected eligible beneficiaries who, as of the date of the report, have made an election described in subsection (c)(1).

“(B) The estimated increase in annual costs per each affected eligible beneficiary counted under subparagraph (A) as compared to the estimated annual costs if a contract described in subsection (a)(2)(A) did not affect the eligibility of the beneficiary for TRICARE Prime.

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

“(i) the impact on access to health care for affected eligible beneficiaries; and
“(ii) the satisfaction of such beneficiaries with respect to access to health care under TRICARE Standard.

“(D) A description of the estimated cost savings realized by reducing the availability of TRICARE Prime in regions described in subsection (d)(1)(B).”.

(b) **CONFORMING AMENDMENT.**—Subsection (b)(3)(A) of such section is amended by striking “subsection (c)(1)(B)” and inserting “subsection (d)(1)(B)”.
SEC. 726.[Log 53945] COMPTROLLER GENERAL REPORT ON

TRANSITION OF CARE FOR POST-TRAUMATIC

STRESS DISORDER OR TRAUMATIC BRAIN IN-

JURY.

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

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

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

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

(3) The extent to which the Secretary of De-
fense and the Secretary of Veterans Affairs have
worked together to identify and apply best pharma-
ceutical treatment practices.
(4) A description of the off-formulary waiver process of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and the extent to which the process is applied efficiently at the treatment level.

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

(6) Any other issues that the Comptroller General determines appropriate.

(c) TRANSITION OF CARE DEFINED.—In this section, the term “transition of care” means the transition of an individual from receiving treatment furnished by the Secretary of Defense to treatment furnished by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs.
Subtitle C—Other Matters

SEC. 1421. [Log 53872] 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.

(a) AUTHORITY FOR TRANSFER OF FUNDS.—Of the funds authorized to be appropriated by section 1406 and available for the Defense Health Program for operation and maintenance, $146,857,000 may be transferred by the Secretary of Defense to the Joint Department of Defense–Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Facility Demonstration Fund established by subsection (a)(1) of section 1704 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2010 (Public Law 111–84; 123 Stat. 2571). For purposes of subsection (a)(2) of such section 1704, any funds so transferred shall be treated as amounts authorized and appropriated specifically for the purpose of such a transfer.

(b) USE OF TRANSFERRED FUNDS.—For the purposes of subsection (b) of such section 1704, facility operations for which funds transferred under subsection (a) may be used are operations of the Captain James A. Lovell Federal Health Care Center, consisting of the
North Chicago Veterans Affairs Medical Center, the Navy Ambulatory Care Center, and supporting facilities designated as a combined Federal medical facility under an operational agreement covered by section 706 of the Duncan Hunter National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2009 (Public Law 110–417; 122 Stat. 4500).
SEC. 1422. [Log 53873] AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR ARMED FORCES RETIREMENT HOME.

There is hereby authorized to be appropriated for fiscal year 2015 from the Armed Forces Retirement Home Trust Fund the sum of $63,400,000 for the operation of the Armed Forces Retirement Home.
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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 polices 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
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.

Report on Implementation Plans for the Defense Health Agency
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.