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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, 2022:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>FY 2021 Authorized</th>
<th>FY 2022 Request</th>
<th>Committee Recommendation</th>
<th>FY 2022 Request</th>
<th>FY 2021 Authorized</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Army</td>
<td>485,900</td>
<td>485,000</td>
<td>485,000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Navy</td>
<td>347,800</td>
<td>346,200</td>
<td>346,200</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-1,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USMC</td>
<td>181,200</td>
<td>178,500</td>
<td>178,500</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-2,700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Air Force</td>
<td>333,475</td>
<td>328,300</td>
<td>328,300</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-5,175</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Space Force</td>
<td>6,434</td>
<td>8,400</td>
<td>8,400</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1,966</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DOD Total</td>
<td>1,354,809</td>
<td>1,346,400</td>
<td>1,346,400</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-8,409</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, Air Force, and Space Force as of September 30, 2022. The committee recommends 485,000 as the minimum Active Duty end strength for the Army, 346,200 as the minimum Active Duty end strength for the Navy, 178,500 as the minimum Active Duty end strength for the Marine Corps, 328,300 as the minimum Active Duty end strength for the Air Force, and 8,400 as the minimum Active Duty end strength for the Space Force.
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, 2022:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>FY 2021 Authorized</th>
<th>FY 2022 Request</th>
<th>Committee Recommendation</th>
<th>FY 2022 Request</th>
<th>FY 2021 Authorized</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Army National Guard</td>
<td>336,500</td>
<td>336,000</td>
<td>336,000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Army Reserve</td>
<td>189,800</td>
<td>189,500</td>
<td>189,500</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Navy Reserve</td>
<td>58,800</td>
<td>58,600</td>
<td>58,600</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marine Corps Reserve</td>
<td>38,500</td>
<td>36,800</td>
<td>36,800</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-1,700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Air National Guard</td>
<td>108,100</td>
<td>108,300</td>
<td>108,300</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Air Force Reserve</td>
<td>70,300</td>
<td>70,300</td>
<td>70,300</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DOD Total</td>
<td>802,000</td>
<td>799,500</td>
<td>799,500</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-2,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coast Guard Reserve</td>
<td>7,000</td>
<td>7,000</td>
<td>7,000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This section would authorize the following end strengths for Reserves on Active Duty in support of the Reserves as of September 30, 2022:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>FY 2021 Authorized</th>
<th>FY 2022 Request</th>
<th>Committee Recommendation</th>
<th>FY 2022 Request</th>
<th>FY 2021 Authorized</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Army National Guard</td>
<td>30,595</td>
<td>30,845</td>
<td>30,845</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Army Reserve</td>
<td>16,511</td>
<td>16,511</td>
<td>16,511</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Navy Reserve</td>
<td>10,215</td>
<td>10,293</td>
<td>10,293</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marine Corps Reserve</td>
<td>2,386</td>
<td>2,386</td>
<td>2,386</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Air National Guard</td>
<td>25,333</td>
<td>26,661</td>
<td>26,661</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1,328</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Air Force Reserve</td>
<td>5,256</td>
<td>6,003</td>
<td>6,003</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>747</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DOD Total</td>
<td>90,296</td>
<td>92,699</td>
<td>92,699</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2,403</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, 2022:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>FY 2021 Authorized</th>
<th>FY 2021 Request</th>
<th>Committee Recommendation</th>
<th>FY 2022 Request</th>
<th>FY 2021 Authorized</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Army National Guard</td>
<td>22,294</td>
<td>22,294</td>
<td>22,294</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Army Reserve</td>
<td>6,492</td>
<td>6,492</td>
<td>6,492</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Air National Guard</td>
<td>10,994</td>
<td>9,885</td>
<td>9,885</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-1,109</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Air Force Reserve</td>
<td>7,947</td>
<td>7,111</td>
<td>7,111</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-836</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DOD Total</td>
<td>47,727</td>
<td>45,782</td>
<td>45,782</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-1,945</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Section 414—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 2022 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 2021 Authorized</th>
<th>FY 2021 Request</th>
<th>Committee Recommendation</th>
<th>FY 2022 Request</th>
<th>FY 2021 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>Navy 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>
TITLE V—MILITARY PERSONNEL POLICY

LEGISLATIVE PROVISIONS

SUBTITLE A—REGULAR COMPONENT MANAGEMENT

Section 5xx—Command Oversight of Military Privatized Housing as Element of Performance Evaluations

This section would require that military privatized housing oversight is documented on the performance evaluation of an individual responsible for such oversight.

Section 5xx—Improvements to Military Accessions in Armed Forces under the Jurisdiction of the Secretaries of the Military Departments

This section would require the Secretary concerned to take directed steps to improve the military accessions process of their service.

Section 5xx—Information on Female and Minority Participation in Military Service Academies and the Senior Reserve Officers' Training Corps

This section would amend section 113 of title 10, United States Code, to include information on female and minority participation at the service academies and Senior Reserve Officers' Training Corps.

SUBTITLE B—RESERVE COMPONENT MANAGEMENT

Section 5xx—Grade of Certain Chiefs of Reserve Components

This section would authorize the Chief of each service Reserve Component be in the grade of three-star officer.

SUBTITLE D—MILITARY JUSTICE AND OTHER LEGAL MATTERS

Section 5xx—Required Staffing of Administrative Separation Boards

This section would ensure all administrative separation boards have a recorder and legal advisor. This section would also require the recorder to be a legal officer under the authority of the staff judge advocate for the separation authority.

Section 5XX—Civilian Positions to Support Special Victims' Counsel

This section would permit the Secretary of a military department to establish one or more civilian positions within each office of the Special Victims'
Counsel under the jurisdiction of such Secretary to provide support to Special Victims’ Counsel and to ensure continuity.

Section 5XX—Modification of Notice to Victims of Pendency of Further Administrative Action Following a Determination Not to Refer to Trial by Court-Martial

This section would strike “alleged sexual assault” and insert “an alleged sex-related offense” as defined in section 1044e(h) of title 10, United States Code, and require commanders to notify victims of sex-related offenses of the outcomes of administrative actions.

**SUBTITLE E—SEXUAL ASSAULT**

Section 5xx—Distribution of Information on the Availability of Civilian Victim Services

This section would require the Secretary of Defense to require each military legal service provider to provide, to each victim referred to such provider, a list of approved civilian victim service organizations from which the victim may seek legal assistance, legal representation, or other related services. This section also would require the Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Office of the Department of Defense to carry out activities to ensure the widespread distribution, throughout the Department, of information on the availability of services from civilian victim service organizations.

Section 5xx—Modifications to Annual Report Regarding Sexual Assaults Involving Members of the Armed Forces

This section would extend the reporting requirement of section 1631 of the Ike Skelton National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2011 (Public Law 111-383) for 5 years and require the annual report to include the race and ethnicity of the victim and accused.

**SUBTITLE F—MEMBER EDUCATION, TRAINING, RESILIENCE, AND TRANSITION**

Section 5xx—Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center

This section would amend section 2168 of title 10, United States Code, to permit the Defense Language Institute to confer Bachelor degrees, in addition to Associate degrees, to graduates that meet the appropriate requirements for that degree.
Section 5xx—Reduction in Service Commitment Required for Participation in Career Intermission Program of a Military Department

This section would amend section 710 of title 10, United States Code, to reduce the commitment required for participation in the Career Intermission Program.

Section 5xx—Professional Military Education: Report; Definition

This section would require the Secretary of Defense to review, assess, and standardize the definition of professional military education across the Department of Defense.

Section 5XX—Clarification and Expansion of Prohibition on Gender-Segregated Training in the Marine Corps

This section would further specify the level of gender integration required for Marine Corps enlisted and officer training.

Section 5XX—GAO Review of Preservation of the Force and Family Program of United States Special Operations Command

This section would require a comprehensive review of the Preservation of the Force and Family Program by the Comptroller General of the United States.

Section 5xx—United States Naval Community College

This section would establish the United States Naval Community College (USNCC) under the Department of the Navy and would provide the USNCC the authority to hire civilian faculty and award degrees.

Subtitle G—Defense Dependents’ Education and Military Family Readiness Matters

Section 5XX—Establishment of Exceptional Family Member Program Advisory Council

This section would establish an Exceptional Family Member Program Advisory Council to better support military families who have members with special needs.
SUBTITLE H—DECORATIONS AND AWARDS

Section 5xx—Eligibility of Veterans of Operation End Sweep for Vietnam Service Medal

This section would authorize the Secretary concerned to award the Vietnam Service Medal to eligible veterans of Operation End Sweep.

Section 5xx—Establishment of the Atomic Veterans Service Medal

This section would authorize the establishment of a commemorative Atomic Veterans Service Medal to honor radiation-exposed retired and former members of the Armed Forces.

SUBTITLE J—MISCELLANEOUS REPORTS AND OTHER MATTERS

Section 5xx—Codification of Establishment of United States Air Force Institute of Technology

This section would provide the authority for the United States Air Force Institute of Technology (AFIT) in title 10, United States Code, codifying AFIT’s existing role to serve both the Air Force and the Space Force.

Section 5XX—Activities to Improve Family Violence Prevention and Response

This section would examine the staffing levels of family advocacy programs and the measures of effectiveness for family violence prevention and response programs.

Section 5xx—Report on Preservation of the Force and Family Program of United States Special Operations Command

This section would require the Commander, U.S. Special Operations Command, to submit a report on the effectiveness of the Preservation of the Force and Family human performance domains for the entire special operations community, including women and minority communities.

Section 5XX—Updates and Preservation of Memorials to Chaplains at Arlington National Cemetery

This section would update and preserve memorials to chaplains at Arlington National Cemetery.
Section 5XX—Reports on Misconduct by Members of Special Operations Forces

This section would institutionalize reporting requirements for the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Special Operations and Low Intensity Conflict (ASD SO/LIC). The ASD SO/LIC would be required to notify Congress of all instances of misconduct by members of special operations forces. Reporting requirements would remain consistent with the military services in accordance with existing service requirements.

Section 5xx—FAA Rating of Civilian Pilots of the Department of Defense

This section would require the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) to modify section 61.73 of title 14, Code of Federal Regulations, so that Department of Defense civilian pilots who receive the same training, instruction, and qualifications as their Active Duty, Reserve, and National Guard counterparts receive the same treatment with respect to FAA recognition of pilot ratings.

Section 5XX—Clarification of Qualifications for Attorneys Who Provide Legal Services to Families Enrolled in the Exceptional Family Member Program

This section would clarify the experience required by attorneys supporting Exceptional Family Member Program participants.

TITLE VI—COMPENSATION AND OTHER PERSONNEL BENEFITS

LEGISLATIVE PROVISIONS

SUBTITLE A—PAY AND ALLOWANCES

Section 6xx—Basic Needs Allowance for Low-Income Regular Members

This section would amend section 402 of title 37, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Defense to pay a basic needs allowance to a qualified service member.

SUBTITLE B—BONUSES AND SPECIAL AND INCENTIVE PAYS

Section 6xx—One-Year Extension of Certain Expiring Bonus and Special Pay Authorities

This section would extend, through December 31, 2022, income replacement payments for Reserve Component members experiencing extended and frequent
mobilization for Active Duty service; two critical recruitment and retention
incentive programs for Reserve Component healthcare professionals; accession and
retention incentives for nuclear-qualified officers; and the consolidated special and
incentive pay authorities.

Section 6xx—Expansions of Certain Travel and Transportation Authorities

This section would amend titles 10 and 37, United States Code, to make
permanent existing travel and transportation authorities that will expire after
Fiscal Year 2012 (Public Law 112-81) consolidated travel and transportation
allowances with the intent for the Department of Defense to reform and update
those policies using the new broader travel and transportation authorities.

SUBTITLE D—OTHER MATTERS

Section 6xx—Continuation of Paid Parental Leave for a Member of the Armed
Forces upon Death of Child

This section would authorize commanders to allow service members to
complete the remainder of their preapproved primary or secondary caregiver leave
following the death of the child for whom the leave was taken.

Section 6xx—Expansion of Parental Leave for Members of the Armed Forces

This section would amend section 701 of title 10, United States Code, to
expand parental leave for qualified service members to 12 weeks.

Section 6xx—Expansion of Pilot Program to Provide Financial Assistance to
Members of the Armed Forces for In-Home Child Care

This section would authorize the expansion of the in-home childcare fee
assistance pilot program.

Section 6XX—Casualty Assistance Program: Reform; Establishment of Working
Group

This section would establish a Casualty Assistance Reform Working Group
to assess the casualty affairs programs across the Department of Defense.

Section 6xx—Transitional Compensation and Benefits for the Former Spouse of a
Member of the Armed Forces Who Allegedly Committed a Dependent-Abuse Offense
during Marriage
This section would modify section 1059 of title 10, United States Code, to clarify the timing for eligibility of transitional compensation for dependent-abuse offenses during marriage to a service member.

Section 6xx—Additional Sources of Funds Available for Construction, Repair, Improvement, and Maintenance of Commissary Stores

This section would provide the Defense Commissary Agency (DeCA) with flexibility in addressing commissary store construction, renovation, repairs, and upgrades by allowing DeCA to deposit additional revenues into the surcharge account established pursuant to section 2484 of title 10, United States Code.

TITLE VII—HEALTH CARE PROVISIONS

LEGISLATIVE PROVISIONS

SUBTITLE A—TRICARE AND OTHER HEALTH CARE BENEFITS

Section 7XX—Independent Analysis of Department of Defense Comprehensive Autism Care Demonstration Program

This section would require an independent review of the Department of Defense Comprehensive Autism Care Demonstration program to be completed by the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine.

Section 7XX—Study on Joint Fund of the Department of Defense and the Department of Veterans Affairs for Federal Electronic Health Record Modernization Office

This section would require the Department of Defense and the Department of Veterans Affairs to evaluate the effectiveness and future of the Federal Electronic Health Record Modernization Office.

Section 7XX—Improvement of Postpartum Care for Certain Members of the Armed Forces and Dependents

This section would require a pilot program in support of post-natal care, to include pelvic health rehabilitation, and the issuance of policy guidance to develop and to implement standard protocols across the Military Health System to treat obstetric hemorrhage.
Section 7XX—Standardization of Definitions Used by the Department of Defense for Terms Related to Suicide

This section would require the Department of Defense to standardize suicide attempt and suicidal ideation definitions across all of the military services.

Section 7XX—GAO Study on Exclusion of Certain Remarried Individuals from Medical and Dental Coverage under TRICARE Program

This section would require the Comptroller General to conduct a study on the purpose and effects of limiting medical and dental coverage under the TRICARE program to exclude remarried widows, widowers, and former spouses of members or former members of the uniformed services.

Section 7XX—Authorization of Program to Prevent Fraud and Abuse in the Military Health System

This section would establish a program to prevent fraud and abuse in the Military Health System.

Section 7XX—Modifications and Report Related to Reduction or Realignment of Military Medical Manning and Medical Billets

This section would modify previous limitations on the realignment or reduction of military medical Manning end strength in light of emerging requirements.

Section 7XX—Pilot Program on Cardiac Screening at Certain Military Service Academies

This section would expand an ongoing pilot to conduct cardiac screening for incoming candidates at the military service academies.

Section 7XX—Briefing on Domestic Production of Critical Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients

This section would require a briefing on the development of a domestic production capability for critical active pharmaceutical ingredients and final dosage form medicines.

Section 7XX—Modifications to Pilot Program on Health Care Assistance System

This section would extend the deadline and scope of the report required following this pilot.
SUBTITLE C—MATTERS RELATING TO COVID–19

Section 7XX—Establishment of Department of Defense System to Track and Record Information on Vaccine Administration

This section would establish a process for the Department of Defense to track vaccines administered by the Department, including adverse reactions and refusals.

TITLE X—GENERAL PROVISIONS

LEGISLATIVE PROVISIONS

SUBTITLE E—MISCELLANEOUS AUTHORITIES AND LIMITATIONS

Section 10XX—Providing End-to-End Electronic Voting Services for Absent Uniformed Services Voters in Locations with Limited or Immature Postal Service

This section would explore electronic solutions for reducing voting barriers for service members in remote locations.

TITLE XIV—OTHER AUTHORIZATIONS

LEGISLATIVE PROVISIONS

SUBTITLE C—OTHER MATTERS

Section 14XX—Authorization of Appropriations for Armed Forces Retirement Home

This section would authorize appropriations for the operation of the Armed Forces Retirement Home.

Section 14XX—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 transfer of funds to the Joint Department of Defense–Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Facility Demonstration Fund.
BILL LANGUAGE
SEC. 401. END STRENGTHS FOR ACTIVE FORCES.

The Armed Forces are authorized strengths for active duty personnel as of September 30, 2022, as follows:

(1) The Army, 485,000.

(2) The Navy, 346,200.

(3) The Marine Corps, 178,500.

(4) The Air Force, 328,300.

(5) The Space Force, 8,400.
SEC. 402 [log72831]. 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 (5) and inserting the following new paragraphs:

“(1) For the Army, 485,000.

“(2) For the Navy, 346,200.

“(3) For the Marine Corps, 178,500.

“(4) For the Air Force, 328,300.

“(5) For the Space Force, 8,400.”.
SEC. 411 [log72832]. 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, 2022, as follows:

(1) The Army National Guard of the United States, 336,000.

(2) The Army Reserve, 189,500.

(3) The Navy Reserve, 58,600.

(4) The Marine Corps Reserve, 36,800.


(6) The Air Force Reserve, 70,300.

(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 participation 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. 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, 2022, 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, 30,845.
2. The Army Reserve, 16,511.
3. The Navy Reserve, 10,293.
4. The Marine Corps Reserve, 2,386.
5. The Air National Guard of the United States, 26,661.
6. The Air Force Reserve, 6,003.
SEC. 413. END STRENGTHS FOR MILITARY TECHNICIANS (DUAL STATUS).

The minimum number of military technicians (dual status) as of the last day of fiscal year 2022 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, 22,294.

2. For the Army Reserve, 6,492.

3. For the Air National Guard of the United States, 9,885.

4. For the Air Force Reserve, 7,111.
SEC. 414. MAXIMUM NUMBER OF RESERVE PERSONNEL AUTHORIZED TO BE ON ACTIVE DUTY FOR OPERATIONAL SUPPORT.

During fiscal year 2022, 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.
SEC. 5. COMMAND OVERSIGHT OF MILITARY PRIVATIZED HOUSING AS ELEMENT OF PERFORMANCE EVALUATIONS.

(a) EVALUATIONS IN GENERAL.—Each Secretary of a military department shall ensure that the performance evaluations of any individual described in subsection (b) under the jurisdiction of such Secretary indicates the extent to which such individual has or has not exercised effective oversight and leadership in the following:

(1) Improving conditions of privatized housing under subchapter IV of chapter 169 of title 10, United States Code.

(2) Addressing concerns with respect to such housing of members of the Armed Forces and their families who reside in such housing on an installation of the military department concerned.

(b) COVERED INDIVIDUALS.—The individuals described in this subsection are as follows:

(1) The commander of an installation of a military department at which on-installation housing is managed by a landlord of privatized housing under subchapter IV of chapter 169 of title 10, United States Code.
(2) Each officer or senior enlisted member of
the Armed Forces at an installation described in
paragraph (1) whose duties include facilities or
housing management at such installation.

(3) Any other officer or enlisted member of the
Armed Forces (whether or not at an installation de-
scribed in paragraph (1)) as specified by the Sec-
retary of the military department concerned for pur-
poses of this section.
SEC. 5. IMPROVEMENTS TO MILITARY ACCESSIONS IN ARMED FORCES UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE SECRETARIES OF THE MILITARY DEPARTMENTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, each Secretary of a military department shall take the following steps regarding military accessions in each Armed Force under the jurisdiction of such Secretary:

(1) Assess the prescribed medical standards for appointment as an officer, or enlistment as a member, in such Armed Force.

(2) Determine how to update the medical screening processes for appointment or enlistment.

(3) Determine how to standardize operations across the military entrance processing stations.

(4) Determine how to improve aptitude testing methods and standardized testing requirements.

(5) Implement improvements determined or identified under paragraphs (1) through (4).

(b) REPORT.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, each Secretary shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report containing the results of carrying out this section and rec-
ommendations regarding legislation the Secretary deter-
mines necessary to improve such military accessions.

(c) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES DE-
FINED.—In this section, the term “appropriate congres-
sional committees” means—

(1) The Committee on Armed Services of the
House of Representatives.

(2) The Committee on Armed Services of the
Senate.

(3) The Committee on Transportation and In-
frastructure of the House of Representatives.

(4) The Committee on Commerce, Science, and
Transportation of the Senate.
SEC. 5. INFORMATION ON FEMALE AND MINORITY PARTICIPATION IN MILITARY SERVICE ACADEMIES AND THE SENIOR RESERVE OFFICERS’ TRAINING CORPS.

Section 113 of title 10, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (c)(2), by inserting before the semicolon the following: “, including the status of diversity and inclusion in the military service academies and the Senior Reserve Officers’ Training Corps programs of such department”;

(2) in subsection (l)(2)—

(A) in subparagraph (D), by inserting “(including through the military service academies and the Senior Reserve Officers’ Training Corps)” after “into the armed forces”; and

(B) in subparagraph (E), by inserting “, attendance at military service academies, and enrollment in the Senior Reserve Officers’ Training Corps that” before “is representative”; and

(3) in subsection (m)—
(A) by redesignating paragraphs (5) through (7) as paragraphs (6) through (8), respectively; and

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

“(5) The number of cadets and midshipmen from the Senior Reserve Officers’ Training Corps of each armed force who are expected to be commissioned into the armed forces during the fiscal year covered by such report, disaggregated by gender, race, and ethnicity.”.
SEC. 5. [log73052]. GRADE OF CERTAIN CHIEFS OF RESERVE COMPONENTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—

(1) CHIEF OF ARMY RESERVE.—Section 7038(b)(1) of title 10, United States Code, is amended by striking “general officers of the Army Reserve” and inserting “officers of the Army Reserve in the grade of lieutenant general and”.

(2) CHIEF OF NAVY RESERVE.—Section 8083(b)(1) of such title is amended by striking “flag officers of the Navy (as defined in section 8001(1))” and inserting “officers of the Navy Reserve in the grade of vice admiral and”.

(3) COMMANDER, MARINE FORCES RESERVE.—Section 8084(b)(1) of such title is amended by striking “general officers of the Marine Corps (as defined in section 8001(2))” and inserting “officers of the Marine Corps Reserve in the grade of lieutenant general and”.

(4) CHIEF OF AIR FORCE RESERVE.—Section 9038(b)(1) of such title is amended by striking “general officers of the Air Force Reserve” and inserting “officers of the Air Force Reserve in the grade of lieutenant general and”.

April 22, 2021 (12:09 p.m.)

Merged 7/22/21 4:03 PM by sfaix
(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made under subsection (a) shall take effect on the date that is one year after the date of the enactment of this Act and shall apply to appointments made after such date.
SEC. 5. [log73174]. REQUIRED STAFFING OF ADMINISTRATIVE SEPARATION BOARDS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the military department concerned shall ensure that any administrative separation board under the jurisdiction of such Secretary has assigned to it the following:

(1) A nonvoting legal advisor who shall be responsible for providing legal advice to the President of the board on—

(A) the operations and procedures of the board; and

(B) matters under consideration by the board.

(2) A nonvoting recorder who shall be responsible for representing the separation authority in the proceedings before the board.

(b) SELECTION AND SUPERVISION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The nonvoting legal advisor referred to in subsection (a)(1) and the recorder referred to in subsection (a)(2) shall each be selected by the staff judge advocate and each shall serve under the supervision of such staff judge advocate.

(2) CERTIFICATION.—The staff judge advocate who selects the recorder under paragraph (1) shall
include in the record of the proceedings of the board a written certification affirming that the recorder has the legal skills necessary to competently fulfill the duties of that position.
SEC. 5. CIVILIAN POSITIONS TO SUPPORT SPECIAL VICTIMS’ COUNSEL.

(a) CIVILIAN SUPPORT POSITIONS.—Each Secretary of a military department may establish one or more civilian positions within each office of the Special Victims’ Counsel under the jurisdiction of such Secretary.

(b) DUTIES.—The duties of each position under subsection (a) shall be—

(1) to provide support to Special Victims’ Counsel, including legal, paralegal, and administrative support;

(2) to ensure continuity of legal services and the preservation institutional knowledge in the provision of victim legal services; and

(3) to carry out other relevant duties as the Secretary of the military department determines appropriate.

(e) SPECIAL VICTIMS’ COUNSEL DEFINED.—In this section, the term “Special Victims’ Counsel” means Special Victims’ Counsel described in section 1044e of title 10, United States Code, and in the case of the Navy and Marine Corps, includes counsel designated as “Victims’ Legal Counsel”.

June 28, 2021
SEC. 5 — [Log 73391]. MODIFICATION OF NOTICE TO VICTIMS OF PENDENCY OF FURTHER ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION FOLLOWING A DETERMINATION NOT TO REFER TO TRIAL BY COURT-MARTIAL.

Section 549 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020 (Public Law 116–92; 10 U.S.C. 806b note) is amended—

(1) in the section heading, by striking “ALLEGED SEXUAL ASSAULT” and inserting “ALLEGED SEX-RELATED OFFENSE”;

(2) by striking “Under regulations” and inserting “Notwithstanding section 552a of title 5, United States Code, and under regulations”;

(3) by striking “alleged sexual assault” and inserting “an alleged sex-related offense (as defined in section 1044e(h) of title 10, United States Code)”;

and

(4) by adding at the end the following new sentence: “Upon such final determination, the commander shall notify the victim of the type of action taken on such case, the outcome of the action (including any punishments assigned or characterization of service, as applicable), and such other infor-
1 mation as the commander determines to be rele-
2 evant.”
SEC. 5. DISTRIBUTION OF INFORMATION ON THE AVAILABILITY OF CIVILIAN VICTIM SERVICES.

(a) INFORMATION DISTRIBUTION.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense shall—

(1) require each military legal service provider to provide, to each victim referred to such provider, a list of approved civilian victim service organizations from which the victim may seek legal assistance, legal representation, or other legal services; and

(2) direct the Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Office of the Department of Defense to carry out activities to ensure the widespread distribution, throughout the Department, of information on the availability of services from civilian victim service organizations.

(b) APPROVAL OF ORGANIZATIONS.—The Secretary of Defense, acting through the Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Office of the Department of Defense, shall establish criteria for the approval of civilian victim service organizations for inclusion on the list described in subsection (a)(1).
(c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) The term “civilian victim service organization” means an organization outside the Department of Defense that is approved by the Secretary of Defense for the purpose of providing legal assistance, legal representation, or other legal services directly to a victim.

(2) The term “military legal service provider” means an individual or organization within the Department of Defense authorized to provide legal assistance, legal representation, or other legal services directly to a victim.

(3) The term “victim” means the victim of an offense under chapter 47 of title 10, United States Code (the Uniform Code of Military Justice).
SEC. 5. [Log 73175]. MODIFICATIONS TO ANNUAL REPORT REGARDING SEXUAL ASSAULTS INVOLVING MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES.

(a) Elimination of Sunset and Inclusion of Demographic Information.—


(A) in subsection (a), by striking “through March 1, 2021” and inserting “through March 1, 2026”; and

(B) in subsection (b)—

(i) in paragraph (3), by inserting “the race and ethnicity of the victim and accused,” before “the action”; and

(ii) in paragraph (13)(B), by inserting “, including the race and ethnicity of the victim and accused” before the period at the end.

(2) Applicability.—The amendments made by paragraph (1) shall apply with respect to reports required to be submitted under section 1631 of the Ike Skelton National Defense Authorization Act for...
Fiscal Year 2011 (Public Law 111–383; 10 U.S.C. 1561 note) after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(b) ADDITIONAL PREVALENCE DATA.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (8) of section 1631(b) of the Ike Skelton National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2011 (Public Law 111–383; 10 U.S.C. 1561 note) is amended to read as follows:

“(8) An analysis and assessment of trends in the incidence, disposition, and prosecution of sexual assaults by units, commands and other competent authorities, and installations during the year covered by the report, including trends relating to—

“(A) the prosecution of incidents and avoidance of incidents; and

“(B) the prevalence of incidents, set forth separately for—

“(i) each installation with 5,000 or more servicemembers;

“(ii) the major career fields of any individuals involved in such incidents, including the fields of combat arms, aviation, logistics, maintenance, administration, and medical; and
“(iii) in the case of the Navy, the operational status (whether sea duty or shore duty) of any individuals involved in such incidents.”.

SEC. 5. [log73053]. DEFENSE LANGUAGE INSTITUTE FOREIGN LANGUAGE CENTER.

(a) Authority to Award Bachelor’s Degrees.—Section 2168 of title 10, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in the section heading, by striking “Associate” and inserting “Associate or Bachelor”;

and

(2) by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

“(a) Subject to subsection (b), the Commandant of the Defense Language Institute may confer—

“(1) an Associate of Arts degree in a foreign language upon any graduate of the Foreign Language Center of the Institute who fulfills the requirements for that degree; or

“(2) a Bachelor of Arts degree in a foreign language upon any graduate of the Foreign Language Center of the Institute who fulfills the requirements for that degree.”.

(b) Clerical Amendment.—The table of sections at the beginning of chapter 108 of title 10, United States Code, is amended by striking the item relating to section 2168 and inserting the following new item:
“2168. Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center: degree of Associate or Bachelor of Arts in foreign language.”.
SEC. 5. [log73379]. REDUCTION IN SERVICE COMMIT-
MENT REQUIRED FOR PARTICIPATION IN CA-
REER INTERMISSION PROGRAM OF A MILI-
TARY DEPARTMENT.

Section 710(c)(3) of title 10, United States Code, is
amended by striking “two months” and inserting “one
month”.

May 4, 2021 (5:35 p.m.)
SEC. 5. PROFESSIONAL MILITARY EDUCATION: REPORT; DEFINITION.

(a) Report.—

(1) In general.—Not later than July 1, 2022, the Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, shall submit to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives a report setting forth the results of a review and assessment of the definition of professional military education in the Department of Defense and the military departments as specified in subsection (c).

(2) Elements.—The report under this subsection shall include the following elements:

(A) A consolidated summary of all definitions of the term “professional military education” used in the Department of Defense and the military departments.

(B) A description of how such term is used in the Department of Defense in educational institutions, associated schools, programs, think tanks, research centers, and support activities.

(C) An analysis of how such term—
(i) applies to tactical, operational, and strategic settings; and

(ii) is linked to mission requirements.

(D) An analysis of how professional military education has been applied and linked through all levels of Department of Defense education and training.

(E) The applicability of professional military education to the domains of warfare, including land, air, sea, space, and cyber.

(F) With regards to online and virtual learning in professional military education—

(i) an analysis of the use of such learning; and

(ii) student satisfaction in comparison to traditional classroom learning.

(b) DEFINITION.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense, in coordination with the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the Secretaries of the military departments, using the report under subsection (a), shall standardize the definition of ‘‘professional military education’’ across the military departments and the Department of Defense.
SEC. 5. [log73397]. CLARIFICATION AND EXPANSION OF PROHIBITION ON GENDER-SEGREGATED TRAINING IN THE MARINE CORPS.

Section 565 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020 (10 U.S.C. 8431 note prec.) is amended—

(1) in the heading, by inserting “AND OFFICER CANDIDATES SCHOOL” after “DEPOTS”;

(2) in subsection (a)(1)—

(A) by striking “training” and inserting “no training platoon” ; and

(B) by striking “not”;

(3) in subsection (b)(1)—

(A) by striking “training” and inserting “no training platoon” ; and

(B) by striking “not”; and

(4) by adding at the end the following new subsections:

“(c) NEW LOCATION.—No training platoon at a Marine Corps recruit depot established after the date of the enactment of this Act may be segregated based on gender.

“(d) OFFICER CANDIDATES SCHOOL.—
“(1) PROHIBITION.—Subject to paragraph (2), training at Officer Candidates School, Quantico, Virginia, may not be segregated based on gender.

“(2) DEADLINE.—The Commandant of the Marine Corps shall carry out this subsection not later than five years after the date of the enactment of this Act.”.
SEC. 5. [log73280]. GAO REVIEW OF PRESERVATION OF THE FORCE AND FAMILY PROGRAM OF UNITED STATES SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND.

(a) REVIEW.—Not later than April 1, 2022, the Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct a review of POTFF and submit to the appropriate committees a report containing the results of such review.

(b) ELEMENTS.—The report under this section shall include the following:

(1) An assessment of the sufficiency of the human performance domain of current programs and activities of POTFF.

(2) A description of efforts of the Commander of United States Special Operations Command to assess the unique needs of members of special operations forces, including women and minorities.

(3) A description of plans of the Commander to improve POTFF to better address the unique needs of members of special operations forces.

(4) Changes in costs to the United States to operate POTFF since implementation.

(5) Rates of participation in POTFF, including—
(A) the number of individuals who participate;

(B) frequency of use by such individuals;

and

(C) geographic locations where such individuals participate.

(6) Methods by which data on POTFF is collected and analyzed.

(7) Outcomes used to determine the effects of POTFF on members of special operations forces and their immediate family members, including a description of the effectiveness of POTFF in addressing unique needs of such individuals.

(e) BRIEFING.—Not later than January 31, 2022, the Comptroller General shall provide to the appropriate committees a briefing on the preliminary findings of the Comptroller General under the review under this section.

(d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) The term “appropriate committees” means the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and House of Representatives.

(2) The term “POTFF” means the Preservation of the Force and Family Program of United States Special Operations Command under section 1788a of title 10, United States Code.
(3) The term “special operations forces” means the forces described in section 167(j) of title 10, United States Code.
SEC. 5. UNITED STATES NAVAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—Chapter 859 of title 10, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

“§ 8595. United States Naval Community College: establishment and degree granting authority

“(a) ESTABLISHMENT AND FUNCTION.—There is a United States Naval Community College. The primary function of such College shall be to provide—

“(1) programs of academic instruction and professional and technical education for individuals described in subsection (b) in—

“(A) academic and technical fields of the liberal arts and sciences which are relevant to the current and future needs of the Navy and Marine Corps; and

“(B) their practical duties;

“(2) remedial, developmental, or continuing education programs, as prescribed by the Secretary of the Navy, which are necessary to support, maintain, or extend programs under paragraph (1);
“(3) support and advisement services for individuals pursuing such programs; and

“(4) continuous monitoring of the progress of such individuals.

“(b) INDIVIDUALS ELIGIBLE FOR PROGRAMS.—Subject to such other eligibility requirements as the Secretary of the Navy may prescribe, the following individuals are eligible to participate in programs and services under subsection (a):

“(1) Enlisted members of the Navy and Marine Corps.

“(2) Officers of the Navy and Marine Corps who hold a commission but have not completed a postsecondary degree.

“(3) Civilian employees of the Department of the Navy.

“(4) Other individuals, as determined by the Secretary of the Navy, so long as access to programs and services under subsection (a) by such individuals is—

“(A) in alignment with the mission of the United States Naval Community College; and

“(B) determined to support the mission or needs of the Department of the Navy.
“(c) DEGREE AND CREDENTIAL GRANTING AUTHORITY.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Under regulations prescribed by the Secretary of the Navy, the head of the United States Naval Community College may, upon the recommendation of the directors and faculty of the College, confer appropriate degrees or academic credentials upon graduates who meet the degree or credential requirements.

“(2) LIMITATION.—A degree or credential may not be conferred under this subsection unless—

“(A) the Secretary of Education has recommended approval of the degree or credential in accordance with the Federal Policy Governing Granting of Academic Degrees by Federal Agencies; and

“(B) the United States Naval Community College is accredited by the appropriate civilian academic accrediting agency or organization to award the degree or credential, as determined by the Secretary of Education.

“(3) CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS.—

“(A) When seeking to establish degree or credential granting authority under this sub-
section, the Secretary of Defense shall submit
to the Committees on Armed Services of the
Senate and House of Representatives—

“(i) a copy of the self assessment
questionnaire required by the Federal Pol-
icy Governing Granting of Academic De-
grees by Federal Agencies, at the time the
assessment is submitted to the Department
of Education’s National Advisory Com-
mittee on Institutional Quality and Integ-

“(ii) the subsequent recommendations
and rationale of the Secretary of Edu-
cation regarding the establishment of the
degree or credential granting authority.

“(B) Upon any modification or redesigna-
tion of existing degree or credential granting
authority, the Secretary of Defense shall submit
to the Committees on Armed Services of the
Senate and House of Representatives a report
containing the rationale for the proposed modi-
fication or redesignation and any subsequent
recommendation of the Secretary of Education
on the proposed modification or redesignation.
“(C) The Secretary of Defense shall submit to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and House of Representatives a report containing an explanation of any action by the appropriate academic accrediting agency or organization not to accredit the United States Naval Community College to award any new or existing degree or credential.

“(d) Civilian Faculty Members.—

“(1) Authority of Secretary.—The Secretary of the Navy may employ as many civilians as professors, instructors, and lecturers at the United States Naval Community College as the Secretary considers necessary.

“(2) Compensation.—The compensation of persons employed under this subsection shall be prescribed by the Secretary of the Navy.”.

(b) Clerical Amendment.—The table of sections at the beginning of chapter 859 of title 10, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new item:

“8595. United States Naval Community College: establishment and degree granting authority.”.
SEC. 5. [log73396]. ESTABLISHMENT OF EXCEPTIONAL FAMILY MEMBER PROGRAM ADVISORY COUNCIL.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—Chapter 7 of title 10, United States Code, is amended by inserting before section 187 the following new section 186:

“§ 186. Exceptional Family Member Program Advisory Council

“(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is an Exceptional Family Member Program Advisory Council in the Department of Defense (in this section referred to as the ‘Council’).

“(b) PURPOSE.—The Council shall provide, to the Secretary and the chiefs of the covered armed forces, recommendations regarding how to improve the Exceptional Family Member Program. The Council shall provide such recommendations not less than once every six months.

“(c) COMPOSITION.—The Council shall be composed of the following:

“(1) One member of each covered armed force—

“(A) serving on active duty;

“(B) who has a dependent—
“(i) enrolled in the Exceptional Family Member Program; and
“(ii) with an individualized education program; and
“(C) appointed by the Vice Chief of Staff of the covered armed force concerned.
“(2) Two military spouses—
“(A) of members eligible to be appointed under paragraph (1);
“(B) who are not civilian employees of the Department of Defense;
“(C) one of whom is married to an enlisted member and one of whom is married to an officer; and
“(D) appointed by the Vice Chief of Staff of the covered armed force concerned.
“(3) One adult dependent—
“(A) enrolled in the Exceptional Family Member Program; and
“(B) appointed by the Vice Chief of Staff of the covered armed force concerned.
“(4) One representative of the Exceptional Family Member Program Coalition.
“(5) One member of the Defense Health Agency.
“(6) One member of the Department of Defense Education Activity.

“(7) One member of the Office of Special Needs.

“(d) APPOINTMENTS.—In making appointments under subsection (c), the Vice Chief of Staff of the covered armed force concerned shall seek to represent the diversity of the disability community.

“(e) TERMS.—Each member of the Council shall serve a term of two years, except one of the original members appointed under subsection (c)(2), selected by the Secretary of Defense at the time of appointment, one shall be appointed for a term of three years.

“(f) MEETINGS.—The Council shall meet at least once every calendar quarter, in person or by teleconference.

“(g) COVERED ARMED FORCE DEFINED.—In this section, the term ‘covered armed force’ means an armed force under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of a military department.”.

(b) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) TABLE OF SECTIONS.—The table of sections at the beginning of such chapter is amended by inserting before the item relating to section 187 the following new item:

“186. Exceptional Family Member Program Advisory Council.”.
(2) **TERMINATION OF ADVISORY PANEL ON COMMUNITY SUPPORT FOR MILITARY FAMILIES WITH SPECIAL NEEDS.**—Section 563 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2010 (Public Law 111–84; 10 U.S.C. 1781c note) is amended by striking subsection (d).
SEC. 5. [log73081]. ELIGIBILITY OF VETERANS OF OPERATION END SWEEP FOR VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL.

The Secretary of the military department concerned may, upon the application of an individual who is a veteran who participated in Operation End Sweep, award that individual the Vietnam Service Medal.
SEC. 5 [log73521]. ESTABLISHMENT OF THE ATOMIC VETERANS SERVICE MEDAL.

(a) SERVICE MEDAL REQUIRED.—The Secretary of Defense shall design and produce a commemorative military service medal, to be known as the “Atomic Veterans Service Medal”, to honor retired and former members of the Armed Forces who are radiation-exposed veterans (as such term is defined in section 1112(c)(3) of title 38, United States Code).

(b) DISTRIBUTION OF MEDAL.—

(1) ISSUANCE TO RETIRED AND FORMER MEMBERS.—At the request of a radiation-exposed veteran, the Secretary of Defense shall issue the Atomic Veterans Service Medal to the veteran.

(2) ISSUANCE TO NEXT-OF-KIN.—In the case of a radiation-exposed veteran who is deceased, the Secretary may provide for issuance of the Atomic Veterans Service Medal to the next-of-kin of the person.

(3) APPLICATION.—The Secretary shall prepare and disseminate as appropriate an application by which radiation-exposed veterans and their next-of-kin may apply to receive the Atomic Veterans Service Medal.
SEC. 5. CODIFICATION OF ESTABLISHMENT OF UNITED STATES AIR FORCE INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY.

(a) In General.—Chapter 951 of title 10, United States Code, is amended by inserting before section 9414 the following new section:

§ 9413. United States Air Force Institute of Technology: establishment

“There is in the Department of the Air Force a United States Air Force Institute of Technology, the purposes of which are to perform research and to provide, to members of the Air Force and Space Force (including the reserve components) and civilian employees of such Department, advanced instruction and technical education regarding their duties.”.

(b) Clerical Amendment.—The table of sections at the beginning of such chapter is amended by inserting, before the item relating to section 9414, the following new item:

“9413. United States Air Force Institute of Technology; establishment.”.
SEC. 5. ACTIVITIES TO IMPROVE FAMILY VIOLENCE PREVENTION AND RESPONSE.

(a) Delegation of Authority to Authorize Exceptional Eligibility for Certain Benefits.—

Paragraph (4) of section 1059(m) of title 10, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

“(4)(A) Except as provided in subparagraph (B), the authority of the Secretary concerned under paragraph (1) may not be delegated.

“(B) During the two year period following the date of the enactment of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2022, the authority of the Secretary concerned under paragraph (1) may be delegated to an official at the Assistant Secretary-level or above. Any exercise of such delegated authority shall be reported to the Secretary concerned on a quarterly basis.”.

(b) Extension of Requirement for Annual Family Advocacy Program Report Regarding Child Abuse and Domestic Violence.—Section 574(a) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114–328; 130 Stat. 2141) is amended by striking “April 30, 2021” and inserting “April 30, 2026”.

(c) IMPL E N TATION OF COMPTROLLER GENERAL
RECOMMENDATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Consistent with the rec-
ommendations set forth in the report of the Com-
troller General of the United States titled “Domestic
Abuse: Actions Needed to Enhance DOD’s Preven-
tion, Response, and Oversight” (GAO–21–289), the
Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the Secre-
taries of the military departments, shall carry out
the activities specified in subparagraphs (A) through
(K).

(A) DOMESTIC ABUSE DATA.—Not later
than 180 days after the date of the enactment
of this Act, the Secretary of Defense, in con-
sultation with the Secretaries of the military de-
partments, shall carry out each of the following:

(i) Issue guidance to the Secretaries
of the military departments to clarify and
standardize the process for collecting and
reporting data on domestic abuse in the
Armed Forces, including—

(I) data on the numbers and
types of domestic abuse and domestic
violence incidents involving members
of the Armed Forces;
(II) the information required to be reported to the database on domestic violence incidents under section 1562 of title 10, United States Code; and

(III) data for inclusion in the reports regarding child abuse and domestic violence required to be submitted under section 574 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114–328; 130 Stat. 2141).

(ii) Develop a quality control process to ensure the accurate and complete reporting of data on allegations of abuse involving a member of the Armed Forces, including allegations of abuse that do not meet the Department of Defense definition of domestic abuse.

(iii) Expand the scope of any reporting to Congress that includes data on domestic abuse in the Armed Forces to include data on and analysis of the types of allegations of domestic abuse.
(B) DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND COMMAND ACTION DATA.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the Secretaries of the military departments, shall—

(i) evaluate the organizations and elements of the Department of Defense that are responsible for tracking domestic violence incidents and the command actions taken in response to such incidents to determine if there are actions that may be carried out to—

(I) eliminate gaps and redundancies in the activities of such organizations;

(II) ensure consistency in the approaches of such organizations to the tracking of such incidents and actions; and

(III) otherwise improve the tracking of such incidents and actions across the Department; and

(ii) based on the evaluation under clause (i), clarify or adjust—
(I) the duties of such organizations and elements; and

(II) the manner in which such organizations and elements coordinate their activities.

(C) Regulations for violation of civilian orders of protection.—The Secretary of Defense shall revise or issue regulations (as applicable) to ensure that each Secretary of a military department provides, to any member of the Armed Forces under the jurisdiction of such Secretary who is subject to a civilian order of protection, notice that the violation of such order may be punishable under chapter 47 of title 10, United States Code (the Uniform Code of Military Justice).

(D) Agreements with civilian victim service organizations.—

(i) Guidance required.—The Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the Secretaries of the military departments, shall issue guidance pursuant to which personnel of a Family Advocacy Program at a military installation may enter into memorandum of understanding with qualified civil-
ian victim service organizations for purposes of providing services to victims of domestic abuse in accordance with clause (ii).

(ii) CONTENTS OF AGREEMENT.—A memorandum of understanding entered into under clause (i) shall provide that personnel of a Family Advocacy Program at a military installation may refer a victim of domestic abuse to a qualified civilian victim service organization if such personnel determine that—

(I) the services offered at the installation are insufficient to meet the victim’s needs; or

(II) such a referral would otherwise benefit the victim.

(E) SCREENING AND REPORTING OF INITIAL ALLEGATIONS.—The Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the Secretaries of the military departments, shall develop and implement a standardized process—

(i) to ensure consistency in the manner in which allegations of domestic abuse are screened and documented at military installations, including by ensuring that al-
legations of domestic abuse are documented regardless of the severity of the incident;

(ii) that uses a risk-based approach to consistently identify, from among such allegations of domestic abuse, the allegations that should be presented to an Incident Determination Committee; and

(iii) to ensure consistency in the form and manner in which such allegations are presented to Incident Determination Committees.

(F) IMPLEMENTATION AND OVERSIGHT OF INCIDENT DETERMINATION COMMITTEES.—

(i) IMPLEMENTATION.—The Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the Secretaries of the military departments, shall ensure that Incident Determination Committees are fully implemented within each Armed Force.

(ii) OVERSIGHT AND MONITORING.—The Secretary of Defense shall—

(I) direct the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness to conduct oversight of the activities
of the Incident Determination Committees of the Armed Forces on an ongoing basis; and

(II) establish a formal process through which the Under Secretary will monitor Incident Determination Committees to ensure that the activities of such Committees are conducted in an consistent manner in accordance with the applicable policies of the Department of Defense and the Armed Forces.

(G) REASONABLE SUSPICION STANDARD FOR INCIDENT REPORTING.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of the Act, the Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the Secretaries of the military departments, shall issue regulations—

(i) under which the personnel of a Family Advocacy Program shall be required to report an allegation of domestic abuse to an Incident Determination Committee if there is reasonable suspicion that the abuse occurred; and
(ii) that fully define and establish standardized criteria for determining whether an allegation of abuse meets the reasonable suspicion standard referred to in clause (i).

(H) GUIDANCE FOR VICTIM RISK ASSESSMENT.—The Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the Secretaries of the military departments, shall issue guidance that—

(i) identifies the risk assessment tools that must be used by Family Advocacy Program personnel to assess reports of domestic abuse; and

(ii) establishes minimum qualifications for the personnel responsible for using such tools.

(I) IMPROVING FAMILY ADVOCACY PROGRAM AWARENESS CAMPAIGNS.—The Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the Secretaries of the military departments, shall develop and implement—

(i) a communications strategy to support the Armed Forces in increasing awareness of the options and resources
available for reporting incidents of domestic abuse; and

(ii) metrics to evaluate the effectiveness of domestic abuse awareness campaigns within the Department of Defense and the Armed Forces, including by identifying a target audience and defining measurable objectives for such campaigns.

(J) ASSESSMENT OF THE DISPOSITION MODEL FOR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE.—As part of the independent analysis required by section 549C of the William M. (Mac) Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021 (Public Law 116–283) the Secretary of Defense shall include an assessment of—

(i) the risks and consequences of the disposition model for domestic violence in effect as of the date of the enactment of this Act, including the risks and consequences of such model with respect to—

(I) the eligibility of victims for transitional compensation and other benefits; and

(II) the eligibility of perpetrators of domestic violence to possess fire-
arms and any related effects on the military service of such individuals;

and

(ii) the feasibility and advisability establishing alternative disposition models for domestic violence, including an assessment of the advantages and disadvantages of each proposed model.

(K) FAMILY ADVOCACY PROGRAM TRAINING.—

(i) TRAINING FOR COMMANDERS AND SENIOR ENLISTED ADVISORS.—The Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the Secretaries of the military departments, shall—

(I) ensure that the Family Advocacy Program training provided to installation-level commanders and senior enlisted advisors of the Armed Forces meets the applicable requirements of the Department of Defense; and

(II) shall provide such additional guidance and sample training materials as may be necessary to improve the consistency of such training.
(ii) Training for Chaplains.—The Secretary of Defense shall—

(I) require that chaplains of the Armed Forces receive Family Advocacy Program training;

(II) establish content requirements and learning objectives for such training; and

(III) provide such additional guidance and sample training materials as may be necessary to effectively implement such training.

(iii) Training Completion Data.—

The Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the Secretaries of the military departments, shall develop a process to ensure the quality and completeness of data indicating whether members of the Armed Forces who are required to complete Family Advocacy Program training, including installation-level commanders and senior enlisted advisors, have completed such training.

(2) General Implementation Date.—Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (1), the Sec-
retary of Defense shall complete the implementation of the activities specified in such paragraph by not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(3) QUARTERLY STATUS REPORT.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act and on a quarterly basis thereafter until the date on which all of the activities specified in paragraph (1) have been implemented, the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report on the status of the implementation of such activities.

(d) IMPROVING AWARENESS REGARDING FAMILY ADVOCACY PROGRAMS AND OTHER SIMILAR SERVICES.—

(1) PILOT PROGRAM ON INFORMATION FOR FAMILIES ENROLLING IN DEERS.—The Secretary of Defense shall carry out a pilot program to assess the feasibility and advisability of various mechanisms to inform military families about the Family Advocacy Programs and resiliency training of the Armed Forces during their enrollment in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System. The matters assessed by the pilot program shall include the following:
(A) An option for training members of military families on the Family Advocacy Programs.

(B) Mechanisms for providing such family members with information on—

(i) the resources available through the Family Advocacy Programs of the Armed Forces;

(ii) the Military OneSource program of the Department of Defense;

(iii) resources relating to domestic abuse and child abuse and neglect that are available through local community service organizations; and

(iv) the availability of the Military and Family Life Counseling Program.

(C) Steps that may be taken to better inform such family members of the option to make a restricted report or an unrestricted report to a Family Advocacy Program, including information on the difference between such reports.

(2) INFORMATION ON SERVICES FOR MILITARY FAMILIES.—Each Secretary of a military department shall ensure that a military family member who re-
ports an incident of domestic abuse or child abuse
and neglect to a Family Advocacy Program under
the jurisdiction of such Secretary receives com-
prehensive information, in a clear and easily under-
standable format, on the services available to such
family member in connection with such incident.
Such information shall include a complete guide to
the following:

(A) The Family Advocacy Program of the
Armed Force or military department concerned.

(B) Military law enforcement services, in-
cluding an explanation of the process that fol-
lows a report of an incident of domestic abuse
or child abuse or neglect.

(C) Other applicable victim services.

(e) REPORTS ON STAFFING LEVELS FOR FAMILY AD-
VOCACY PROGRAMS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days
after the date on which the staffing tool described
in paragraph (2) becomes operational, and on an an-
annual basis thereafter for the following five years, the
Secretary of Defense shall submit to the appropriate
congressional committees a report setting forth the
following:
(A) Military, civilian, and contract support staffing levels for the Family Advocacy Programs of the Armed Forces at each military installation so staffed as of the date of the report.

(B) Recommendations for ideal staffing levels for the Family Advocacy Programs, as identified by the staffing tool.

(2) STAFFING TOOL DESCRIBED.—The staffing tool described in this paragraph is a tool that—

(A) is under development as of the date of the enactment of this Act pursuant to an agreement between the Department of Defense and Pennsylvania State University; and

(B) will be used to assist the Department in determining adequate staffing levels for Family Advocacy Programs.

(3) COMPTROLLER GENERAL REVIEW.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Following the submission of the first annual report required under paragraph (1), the Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct a review of the staffing of the Family Advocacy Programs of the Armed Forces.
(B) ELEMENTS.—The review conducted under subparagraph (A) shall include an assessment of each of the following:

(i) The extent to which the Armed Forces have filled authorized billets for Family Advocacy program manager, clinician, and victim advocate positions.

(ii) The extent to which the Armed Forces have experienced challenges filling authorized Family Advocacy Program positions, and how such challenges, if any, have affected the provision of services.

(iii) The extent to which the Department of Defense and Armed Forces have ensured that Family Advocacy Program clinicians and victim advocates meet qualification and training requirements.

(iv) The extent to which the Department of Defense has established metrics to evaluate the effectiveness of the staffing tool described in paragraph (2).

(C) BRIEFING AND REPORT.—

(i) BRIEFING.—Not later than one year following the submission of the first annual report required under paragraph
(1), the Comptroller General shall provide to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representa-
tives a briefing on the preliminary observa-
tions made by the Comptroller General as part of the review required under subpara-
graph (A).

(ii) REPORT.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the briefing under clause (i), the Comptroller General shall submit to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representa-
tives a report on the results of the review conducted under subparagraph (A).

(f) STUDY AND REPORT ON INITIAL ENTRY POINTS.—

(1) STUDY.—The Secretary of Defense shall conduct a study to identify initial entry points (in-
cluding anonymous entry points) through which mili-
tary family members may seek information or sup-
port relating to domestic abuse or child abuse and neglect. Such study shall include an assessment of—

(A) points at which military families inter-
act with the Armed Forces or the Department of Defense through which such information or
support may be provided to family members, including points such as enrollment in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System, and the issuance of identification cards; and

(B) other existing and potential routes through which such family members may seek information or support from the Armed Forces or the Department, including online chat rooms, text-based support capabilities, and software applications for smartphones.

(2) REPORT.—Not later than one year 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 setting forth the results of the study conducted under paragraph (1).

(g) INSPECTOR GENERAL REPORT.—Not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Inspector General of the Department of Defense shall submit to the Secretary of Defense and to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives a report that—

(1) evaluates the progress of the Secretary of Defense in carrying out this section; and
(2) identifies any actions the Secretary is taking improve the practices of military installations with respect to the prevention and response to domestic abuse and child abuse and neglect among military families.

(h) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) The term “appropriate congressional committees” means—

(A) the Committee on Armed Services and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate; and

(B) the Committee on Armed Services and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives.

(2) The term “civilian order of protection” has the meaning given that term in section 1561a of title 10, United States Code.

(3) The term “disposition model for domestic violence” means the process to determine—

(A) the disposition of charges of an offense of domestic violence under section 928b of title 10, United States Code (article 128b of the Uniform Code of Military Justice); and

(B) consequences of such disposition for members of the Armed Forces determined to
have committed such offense and the victims of such offense.

(4) The term “Incident Determination Committee” means a committee established at a military installation that is responsible for reviewing reported incidents of domestic abuse and determining whether such incidents constitute harm to the victims of such abuse according to the applicable criteria of the Department of Defense.

(5) The term “qualified civilian victim service organization” means an organization outside the Department of Defense that—

(A) is approved by the Secretary of Defense for the purpose of providing legal or other services to victims of domestic abuse; and

(B) is located in a community surrounding a military installation.

(6) The term “risk assessment tool” means a process or technology that may be used to evaluate a report of an incident of domestic abuse to determine the likelihood that the abuse will escalate or recur.
SEC. 5. REPORT ON PRESERVATION OF THE FORCE AND FAMILY PROGRAM OF UNITED STATES SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND.

(a) Report Required.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Commander of United States Special Operations Command shall submit to the congressional defense committees a report on POTFF.

(b) Elements.—The report under this section shall include the following:

(1) An assessment of the human performance domain of current programs and activities, including—

(A) physical conditioning;

(B) exercise physiology;

(C) kinesiology;

(D) nutrition guidance;

(E) rehabilitative support (including physical therapy); and

(F) mental skills training (including sports psychology).

(2) A description of efforts of the Commander to assess the unique needs of members of special operations forces, including women and minorities.
(3) An assessment of the effectiveness of POTFF in addressing such unique needs.

(4) Plans of the Commander to improve POTFF to better address such unique needs.

(c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) The term “POTFF” means the Preservation of the Force and Family Program of United States Special Operations Command under section 1788a of title 10, United States Code.

(2) The term “special operations forces” means the forces identified in section 167(j) of title 10, United States Code.
SEC. 5. [log73249]. UPDATES AND PRESERVATION OF MEMORIALS TO CHAPLAINS AT ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY.

(a) UPDATES AND PRESERVATION OF MEMORIALS.—

(1) PROTESTANT CHAPLAINS MEMORIAL.—The Secretary of the Army may permit NCMAF—

(A) to modify the memorial to Protestant chaplains located on Chaplains Hill to include a granite, marble, or other stone base for the bronze plaque of the memorial;

(B) to add an additional plaque to the stone base added pursuant to subparagraph (A) to include the name of each chaplain, verified as described in subsection (b), who died while serving on active duty in the Armed Forces after the date on which the original memorial was placed; and

(C) to make such other updates and corrections to the memorial that may be needed as determined by the Secretary.

(2) CATHOLIC AND JEWISH CHAPLAIN MEMORIALS.—The Secretary of the Army may permit NCMAF to update and make corrections to the Catholic and Jewish chaplain memorials located on
Chaplains Hill that may be needed as determined by the Secretary.

(3) NO COST TO FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.—The activities of NCMAF authorized by this subsection shall be carried out at no cost to the Federal Government.

(b) VERIFICATION OF NAMES.—NCMAF may not include the name of a chaplain on a memorial on Chaplains Hill under subsection (a) unless that name has been verified by the Chief of Chaplains of the Army, Navy, or Air Force or the Chaplain of the United States Marine Corps, depending on the branch of the Armed Forces in which the chaplain served.

(e) PROHIBITION ON EXPANSION OF MEMORIALS.—Except as provided in subsection (a)(1)(A), this section may not be construed as authorizing the expansion of any memorial that is located on Chaplains Hill as of the date of the enactment of this Act.

(d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) The term “Chaplains Hill” means the area in Arlington National Cemetery that, as of the date of the enactment of this Act, is generally identified and recognized as Chaplains Hill.

(2) The term “NCMAF” means the National Conference on Ministry to the Armed Forces or any
successor organization recognized in law for purposes of the operation of this section.
SEC. 5. REPORTS ON MISCONDUCT BY MEMBERS OF SPECIAL OPERATIONS FORCES.

(a) REPORT REQUIRED.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and every six months thereafter for five years, the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Special Operations and Low Intensity Conflict shall submit to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and House of Representatives a report regarding misconduct by members of special operations forces during the six months preceding the date of such report.

(b) SPECIAL OPERATIONS FORCES DEFINED.—In this section, the term “special operations forces” means forces described in section 167(j) of title 10, United States Code.
SEC. 5 [log73454]. FAA RATING OF CIVILIAN PILOTS OF
THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE.

(a) ELIGIBILITY FOR CERTAIN RATINGS.—Not later than 18 months after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration shall revise section 61.73 of title 14, Code of Federal Regulations to ensure that a Department of Defense civilian pilot is eligible for a rating based on qualifications earned as a Department of Defense pilot, pilot instructor, or pilot examiner in the same manner that a military pilot is eligible for such a rating based on qualifications earned as a military pilot, pilot instructor, or pilot examiner.

(b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) The term “Department of Defense civilian pilot”—

(A) means an individual, other than a military pilot, who is employed as a pilot by the Department of Defense; and

(B) does not include a contractor of the Department of Defense.

(2) The term “military pilot” means a military pilot, as such term is used in section 61.73 of title 14, Code of Federal Regulations (as in effect on the date of the enactment of this Act).
SEC. 5. CLARIFICATION OF QUALIFICATIONS FOR ATTORNEYS WHO PROVIDE LEGAL SERVICES TO FAMILIES ENROLLED IN THE EXCEPTIONAL FAMILY MEMBER PROGRAM.

Section 582(b)(7) of the William M. (Mac) Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021 (Public law 116–283) is amended, in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking “in education law” and inserting “and with experience in the practice of education law in the State in which the military installation is located (and any other State or States in which a significant portion of the personnel assigned to such military installation reside)”. 
SEC. 6. [log73055]. BASIC NEEDS ALLOWANCE FOR LOW-INCOME REGULAR MEMBERS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 7 of title 37, United States Code, is amended by inserting after section 402a the following new section:

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§ 402b. Basic needs allowance for low-income regular members

(a) ALLOWANCE REQUIRED.—(1) Subject to paragraph (2), the Secretary of Defense shall pay to each covered member a basic needs allowance in the amount determined for such member under subsection (b).

(2) In the event a household contains two or more covered members entitled to receive the allowance under this section in a given year, only one allowance may be paid for that year to a covered member among such covered members whom such covered members shall jointly elect.

(b) AMOUNT OF ALLOWANCE FOR A COVERED MEMBER.—(1) The amount of the monthly allowance payable to a covered member under subsection (a) for a year shall be the aggregate amount equal to—

(A) the aggregate amount equal to—

(i) 130 percent of the Federal poverty guidelines of the Department of Health and Human Serv-
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ices for the location and number of persons in the household of the covered member for such year;
minus
“(ii) the gross household income of the covered member during the preceding year; and
“(B) divided by 12.
“(2) The monthly allowance payable to a covered member for a year shall be payable for each of the 12 months following March of such year.
“(c) NOTICE OF ELIGIBILITY.—(1)(A) Not later than December 31 each year, the Director of the Defense Finance and Accounting Service shall notify, in writing, each individual whom the Director estimates will be a covered member during the following year of the potential entitlement of that individual to the allowance described in subsection (a) for that following year.
“(B) The preliminary notice under subparagraph (A) shall include information regarding financial management and assistance programs administered by the Secretary of Defense for which a covered member is eligible.
“(2) Not later than January 31 each year, each individual who seeks to receive the allowance for such year (whether or not subject to a notice for such year under paragraph (1)) shall submit to the Director such information as the Director shall require for purposes of this sec-
tion in order to determine whether or not such individual is a covered member for such year.

“(3) Not later than February 28 each year, the Director shall notify, in writing, each individual the Director determines to be a covered member for such year.

“(d) ELECTION NOT TO RECEIVE ALLOWANCE.—(1) A covered member otherwise entitled to receive the allowance under subsection (a) for a year may elect, in writing, not to receive the allowance for such year. Any election under this subsection shall be effective only for the year for which made. Any election for a year under this subsection is irrevocable.

“(2) A covered member who does not submit information described in subsection (d)(2) for a year as otherwise required by that subsection shall be deemed to have elected not to receive the allowance for such year.

“(e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

“(1) The term ‘covered member’ means a regular member of an armed force under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of a military department—

“(A) who has completed initial entry training;

“(B) whose gross household income during the most recent year did not exceed an amount equal to 130 percent of the Federal poverty
guidelines of the Department of Health and Human Services for the location and number of persons in the household of the covered member for such year; and

“(C) who does not elect under subsection (d) not to receive the allowance for such year.

“(2) The term ‘gross household income’ of a covered member for a year for purposes of paragraph (1)(B) does not include any basic allowance for housing received by the covered member (and any dependents of the covered member in the household of the covered member) during such year under section 403 of this title.

“(f) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary of Defense shall prescribe regulations for the administration of this section. Subject to subsection (e)(2), such regulations shall specify the income to be included in, and excluded from, the gross household income of individuals for purposes of this section.”.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections at the beginning of chapter 7 of such title is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 402a the following new item:

“402b. Basic needs allowance for low-income regular members.”.
SEC. 6. ONE-YEAR EXTENSION OF CERTAIN EXPIRING BONUS AND SPECIAL PAY AUTHORITIES.

(a) Authorities Relating to Reserve Forces.—Section 910(g) of title 37, United States Code, relating to income replacement payments for reserve component members experiencing extended and frequent mobilization for active duty service, is amended by striking “December 31, 2021” and inserting “December 31, 2022”.

(b) Title 10 Authorities Relating to Health Care Professionals.—The following sections of title 10, United States Code, are amended by striking “December 31, 2021” and inserting “December 31, 2022”:

(1) Section 2130a(a)(1), relating to nurse officer candidate accession program.

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

(c) Authorities Relating to Nuclear Officers.—Section 333(i) of title 37, United States Code, is amended by striking “December 31, 2021” and inserting “December 31, 2022”.
(d) Authorities 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, 2021” and inserting “December 31, 2022”:

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

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

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

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

(7) Section 352(g), relating to assignment pay or special duty pay.

(8) Section 353(i), relating to skill incentive pay or proficiency bonus.
(9) Section 355(h), relating to retention incentives for members qualified in critical military skills or assigned to high priority units.

(e) Authority to Provide Temporary Increase in Rates of Basic Allowance for Housing.—Section 403(b)(7)(E) of title 37, United States Code, is amended by striking “December 31, 2021” and inserting “December 31, 2022”.

SEC. 6. EXPANSIONS OF CERTAIN TRAVEL AND TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITIES.

(a) LODGING IN KIND FOR RESERVE COMPONENT MEMBERS PERFORMING TRAINING.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 12604 of title 10, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(c) LODGING IN KIND.—(1) In the case of a member of a reserve component performing active duty for training or inactive-duty training who is not otherwise entitled to travel and transportation allowances in connection with such duty, the Secretary concerned may reimburse the member for housing service charge expenses incurred by the member in occupying transient government housing during the performance of such duty. If transient government housing is unavailable or inadequate, the Secretary concerned may provide the member with lodging in kind.

“(2) Any payment or other benefit under this subsection shall be provided in accordance with regulations prescribed by the Secretary concerned.

“(3) The Secretary may pay service charge expenses under paragraph (1) and expenses of providing lodging in kind under such paragraph out of funds appropriated for...
operation and maintenance for the reserve component concerned. Use of a Government charge card is authorized for payment of these expenses.

“(4) Decisions regarding the availability or adequacy of government housing at a military installation under paragraph (1) shall be made by the installation commander.”.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 474 of title 37, United States Code, is amended by striking subsection (i).

(b) MANDATORY PET QUARANTINE FEES FOR HOUSEHOLD PETS.—Section 451(b)(8) of title 37, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following: “Such costs include pet quarantine expenses.”.

(c) STUDENT DEPENDENT TRANSPORTATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 452(b) of title 37, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraphs:

“(18) Travel by a dependent child to the United States to obtain formal secondary, undergraduate, graduate, or vocational education, if the permanent duty assignment location of the member of the uniformed services is outside the continental United States (other than in Alaska or Hawaii).
“(19) Travel by a dependent child within the United States to obtain formal secondary, undergraduate, graduate, or vocational education, if the permanent duty assignment location of the member of the uniformed services is in Alaska or Hawaii and the school is located in a State outside of the permanent duty assignment location.”.

(2) DEFINITIONS.—Section 451 of title 37, United States Code, as amended by subsection (b) of this section, is amended—

(A) in subsection (a)(2)(H), by adding at the end the following new clauses:

“(vii) Transportation of a dependent child of a member of the uniformed services to the United States to obtain formal secondary, undergraduate, graduate, or vocational education, if the permanent duty assignment location of the member is outside the continental United States (other than in Alaska or Hawaii).

“(viii) Transportation of a dependent child of a member of the uniformed services within the United States to obtain formal secondary, undergraduate, graduate, or vocational education, if the permanent
duty assignment location of the member is in Alaska or Hawaii and the school is located in a State outside of the permanent duty assignment location.”; and

(B) in subsection (b), by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(10)(A) The term ‘permanent duty assignment location’ means—

“(i) the official station of a member of the uniformed services; or

“(ii) the residence of a dependent of a member of the uniformed services.

“(B) As used in subparagraph (A)(ii), the residence of a dependent who is a student not living with the member while at school is the permanent duty assignment location of the dependent student.”.

(d) DEPENDENT TRANSPORTATION INCIDENT TO SHIP CONSTRUCTION, INACTIVATION, AND OVERHAULING.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 452 of title 37, United States Code, as amended by subsection (c) of this section, is further amended—

(A) in subsection (b), by adding at the end the following new paragraph:
“(20) Subject to subsection (i), travel by a dependent to a location where a member of the uniformed services is on permanent duty aboard a ship that is overhauling, inactivating, or under construction.”; and

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

“(i) DEPENDENT TRANSPORTATION INCIDENT TO SHIP CONSTRUCTION, INACTIVATION, AND OVERHAULING.—The authority under subsection (a) for travel in connection with circumstances described in subsection (b)(19) shall be subject to the following terms and conditions:

“(1) The Service member must be permanently assigned to the ship for 31 or more consecutive days to be eligible for allowances, and the transportation allowances accrue on the 31st day and every 60 days thereafter.

“(2) Transportation in kind, reimbursement for personally procured transportation, or a monetary allowance for mileage in place of the cost of transportation may be provided, in lieu of the member’s entitlement to transportation, for the member’s dependents from the location that was the home port
of the ship before commencement of overhaul or in-
activation to the port of overhaul or inactivation.

“(3) The total reimbursement for transpor-
tation for the member’s dependents may not exceed
the cost of one Government-procured commercial
round-trip travel.”.

(2) DEFINITIONS.—Section 451(a)(2)(H) of
title 37, United States Code, as amended by sub-
section (c) of this section, is further amended by
adding at the end the following new clause:

“(ix) Transportation of a dependent
to a location where a member of the uni-
formed services is on permanent duty
aboard a ship that is overhauling, inac-
tivating, or under construction.”.
SEC. 6. CONTINUATION OF PAID PARENTAL LEAVE FOR A MEMBER OF THE ARMED FORCES UPON DEATH OF CHILD.

Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense shall amend the regulations prescribed pursuant to subsections (i) and (j) of section 701 of title 10, United States Code, to ensure that paid parental leave that has already been approved for a member of the Armed Forces who is a primary or secondary caregiver (as defined under such regulations) may not be terminated upon the death of the child for whom such leave is taken.
SEC. 6. [log73077]. EXPANSION OF PARENTAL LEAVE FOR MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES.

(a) EXPANSION.—Section 701 of title 10, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (i)—

(A) in paragraph (1)—

(i) in subparagraph (A), by striking “twelve weeks” and inserting “18 weeks”;

(ii) in subparagraph (B), by striking “six weeks” and inserting “12 weeks”; and

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

“(C) Under the regulations prescribed for purposes of this subsection, a member of the armed forces described in paragraph (2) who is the primary caregiver in the case of a long-term placement of a foster child is allowed up to 12 weeks of total leave to be used in connection with such placement, subject to limits as determined by the Secretary regarding—

“(i) the total number of times that a member of the armed forces may use leave under this section with respect to the placement of a foster child; and
“(ii) the frequency with which a member of the armed forces may use leave under this section with respect to the placement of a foster child.”;

(B) in paragraph (5), by striking “birth or adoption” and inserting “birth, adoption, or foster child placement”; and

(C) in paragraph (6)(A), by striking “birth or adoption” and inserting “birth, adoption, or foster child placement”;

(2) in subsection (j)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking “21 days” and inserting “12 weeks”;

(B) by redesignating paragraphs (2) through (4) as paragraphs (3) through (5), respectively;

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

“(2) Under the regulations prescribed for purposes of this subsection, a member of the armed forces described in subsection (i)(2) who is the secondary caregiver in the case of a long-term placement of a foster child is allowed up to 12 weeks of total leave to be used in connection with such placement, subject to limits as determined by the Secretary regarding—
“(A) the total number of times that a member of the armed forces may use leave under this section with respect to the placement of a foster child; and

“(B) the frequency with which a member of the armed forces may use leave under this section with respect to the placement of a foster child.”;

(D) in paragraph (4), as redesignated, by striking “only in one increment in connection with such birth or adoption” and inserting “in more than one increment in connection with such birth, adoption, or foster child placement in accordance with regulations prescribed by the Secretary of Defense”; and

(E) by adding at the end the following new paragraph (6):

“(6) Under regulations prescribed for purposes of this subsection, the Secretary shall provide a member of the armed forces described in subsection (i)(2), who would have been a secondary caregiver but for a miscarriage, stillbirth, or infant death, with leave—

“(A) in addition to leave under subsection (a); and

“(B) not to exceed the amount of leave under paragraph (1).”;
(3) in subsection (l), by inserting “ordered to temporary duty overnight travel, or ordered to participate in physically demanding field training exercises,” before “during”; and

(4) by adding at the end the following new subsection (m):

“(m) A member of the armed forces who gives birth while on active duty may be required to meet body composition standards or pass a physical fitness test during the period of 12 months beginning on the date of such birth only with the approval of a health care provider employed at a military medical treatment facility and—

“(1) at the election of such member; or

“(2) in the interest of national security, as determined by the Secretary of Defense.”.

(b) Regulations; Guidance and Policies.—

(1) Regulations.—The Secretary of Defense shall prescribe regulations—

(A) for leave under subsection (i)(1)(C) and subsection (j)(2) of section 701 of title 10, United States Code, as amended by subsection (a), not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act;

(B) that establish leave, consistent across the Armed Forces, under subsection (j)(6) of
such section not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act; and

(C) that establish convalescent leave, consistent across the Armed Forces, under subsection (i)(1) of such section not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(2) Guidance and policies.—Each Secretary of a military department shall prescribe—

(A) policies to establish the maximum amount of leave under subsection (i)(1) of section 701 of title 10, United States Code, as amended by subsection (a), not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act;

(B) policies to implement leave under subsection (i)(5) or (j)(4) of such section not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act;

(C) policies to implement not less than 21 days of leave pursuant to regulations prescribed under paragraphs (1) and (2) of subsection (j) of such section not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act; and

(D) policies to implement the maximum amount of leave pursuant to regulations pre-
scribed under paragraphs (1) and (2) of subsection (j) of such section not later than five years after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(c) REPORTING.—Not later than January 1, 2023, and annually thereafter, each Secretary of a military department shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report containing the following:

(1) The use, during the preceding fiscal year, of leave under subsections (i) and (j) of section 701 of title 10, United States Code, as amended by subsection (a), disaggregated by births, adoptions, and foster placements, including—

(A) the number of members in each Armed Force under the jurisdiction of the Secretary who became primary caregivers;

(B) the number of members in each Armed Force under the jurisdiction of the Secretary who became secondary caregivers;

(C) the number of primary caregivers who used primary caregiver leave;

(D) the number of secondary caregivers who used secondary caregiver leave;
(E) the number of primary caregivers who used the maximum amount of primary caregiver leave;

(F) the number of secondary caregivers who used the maximum amount of secondary caregiver leave;

(G) the number of primary caregivers who utilized primary caregiver leave in multiple increments;

(H) the number of secondary caregivers who utilized primary caregiver leave in multiple increments;

(I) the median duration of primary caregiver leave used by primary caregivers;

(J) the median duration of secondary caregiver leave used by secondary caregivers; and

(K) other information the Secretary determines appropriate.

(2) An analysis of the effect of leave described in paragraph (1) on—

(A) readiness; and

(B) retention.

(3) Any actions taken by the Secretary to mitigate negative effects described in paragraph (2).
(4) The number of members deployed under each paragraph of subsection (l) of section 701 of title 10, United States Code, as amended by subsection (a).

(d) Appropriate Congressional Committees Defined.—In this section, the term “appropriate congressional committees” means—

(1) The Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives.

(2) The Committee on Armed Services of the Senate.

(3) The Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives.

SEC. 6. [log73187]. EXPANSION OF PILOT PROGRAM TO PROVIDE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES FOR IN-HOME CHILD CARE.

Section 589(b) of the William M. (Mac) Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021 (Public Law 116–283) is amended—

(1) by inserting “(1)” before “The Secretary”; and

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

“(2) The Secretary may carry out the pilot program at other locations the Secretary determines appropriate.”.
(a) Casualty Assistance Reform Working Group.—

(1) Establishment.—Not later than 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense shall establish a working group to be known as the “Casualty Assistance Reform Working Group” (in this section referred to as the “Working Group”).

(2) Duties.—The Working Group shall perform the following duties:

(A) Create standards and training for CAOs across the military departments.

(B) Explore the possibility of establishing a unique badge designation for—

(i) CAOs who have performed CAO duty more than five times; or

(ii) professional CAOs.

(C) Commission a 30-day study that—

(i) documents the current workflow of casualty affairs support across the military
departments, including administrative processes and survivor engagements; and

(ii) performs a gap analysis and solution document that clearly identifies and prioritizes critical changes to modernize and professionalize the casualty experience for survivors.

(D) Review the organization of the Office of Casualty, Mortuary Affairs and Military Funeral Honors to ensure it is positioned to coordinate policy and assist in all matters under its jurisdiction, across the Armed Forces, including any potential intersections with the Defense Prisoner of War and Missing in Action Accounting Agency.

(E) Explore the establishment of—

(i) an annual meeting, led by the Secretary of Defense, with gold star families; and

(ii) a surviving and gold star family leadership council.

(F) Recommend improvements to the family notification process of Arlington National Cemetery.
(G) Explore the redesign of the Days Ahead Binder, including creating an electronic version.

(H) Consider the expansion of the DD Form 93 to include more details regarding the last wishes of the deceased member.

(I) Assess coordination between the Department of Defense and the Office of Survivors Assistance of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

(3) MEMBERSHIP.—The membership of the Working Group shall be comprised of the following:

(A) The Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness, who shall serve as Chair of the Working Group.

(B) One individual from each Armed Force, appointed by the Secretary of the military department concerned, who is—

   (i) a civilian employee in the Senior Executive Service; or

   (ii) an officer in a grade higher than O-6.

(C) One individual from the Joint Staff, appointed by the Secretary of Defense, who is—
(i) a civilian employee in the Senior Executive Service; or
(ii) an officer in a grade higher than O-6.

(D) The Director of the Defense Prisoner of War and Missing in Action Accounting Agency.

(E) The Director of the Defense Health Agency (or the designee of such Director).

(F) The Chief of Chaplains of each Armed Force.

(G) Such other members of the Armed Forces or civilian employees of the Department of Defense whom the Secretary of Defense determines to appoint.

(4) REPORT.—Not later than September 30, 2022, the Working Group shall submit to the Secretary of Defense a report containing the determinations and recommendations of the Working Group.

(5) TERMINATION.—The Working Group shall terminate upon submission of the report under paragraph (4).

(b) REPORT REQUIRED.—Not later than November 1, 2022, the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the
House of Representatives a report setting forth the results of a review and assessment of the casualty assistance officer program, including the report of the Working Group.

(c) Establishment of Certain Definitions.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense, in coordination with the Secretaries of the military departments, shall prescribe regulations that establish standard definitions, for use across the military departments, of the terms “gold star family” and “gold star survivor”.

(d) CAO Defined.—In this section, the term “CAO” means a casualty assistance officer of the Armed Forces.
SEC. 6. TRANSITIONAL COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS FOR THE FORMER SPOUSE OF A MEMBER OF THE ARMED FORCES WHO ALLEGEDLY COMMITTED A DEPENDENT-ABUSE OFFENSE DURING MARRIAGE.

(a) In General.—Section 1059 of title 10, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in the heading—

(A) by striking “separated for” and inserting “who commit”; and

(B) by inserting “; health care” after “exchange benefits”;

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) in the heading, by striking “PUNITIVE AND OTHER ADVERSE ACTIONS COVERED” and inserting “COVERED MEMBERS”; 

(B) in paragraph (2), by striking “offense.” and inserting “offense; or”; and

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

“(3) who is not described in paragraph (1) or (2) and whose former spouse alleges that the member committed a dependent-abuse offense—
“(A) during the marriage to the former spouse;

“(B) for which the applicable statute of limitations has not lapsed; and

“(C) that an incident determination committee determines meets the criteria for abuse.”;

(3) in subsection (e)(1)—

(A) in subparagraph (A)(ii), by striking “; and” and inserting a semicolon;

(B) in subparagraph (B), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

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

“(C) in the case of a member described in subsection (b)(3), shall commence upon the date of the final decree of divorce, dissolution, or annulment of that member from the former spouse described in such subsection.”; and

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

“(n) HEALTH CARE FOR CERTAIN FORMER SPOUSES.—The Secretary concerned shall treat a former spouse described in subsection (b)(3) as an abused dependent described in section 1076(e) of this title.”.
(b) TECHNICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections at the beginning of chapter 53 of such title is amended by striking the item relating to section 1059 and inserting the following:

“1059. Dependents of members who commit dependent abuse: transitional compensation; commissary and exchange benefits; health care.”.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this Act shall apply to a former spouse described in subsection (b)(3) of such section 1059, as added by subsection (a)(2) of this section, whose final decree of divorce, dissolution, or annulment described in subsection (e)(1)(C) of such section 1059, as added by subsection (a)(3) of this section, is issued on or after the date of the enactment of this Act.
SEC. 6. ADDITIONAL SOURCES OF FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR CONSTRUCTION, REPAIR, IMPROVEMENT, AND MAINTENANCE OF COMMISSARY STORES.

Section 2484(h) of title 10, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in paragraph (5), by adding at the end the following new subparagraphs:

“(F) Amounts made available for any purpose set forth in paragraph (1) pursuant to an agreement with a host nation.

“(G) Amounts appropriated for repair or reconstruction of a commissary store in response to a disaster or emergency.”; and

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

“(6) Revenues made available under paragraph (5) for the purposes set forth in paragraphs (1), (2), and (3) may be supplemented with additional funds derived from—

“(A) improved management practices implemented pursuant to sections 2481(c)(3), 2485(b), and 2487(c) of this title; and
“(B) the variable pricing program implemented pursuant to subsection (i).”
SEC. 7—[Log 72954]. INDEPENDENT ANALYSIS OF DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE COMPREHENSIVE AUTISM CARE DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM.

(a) AGREEMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Defense shall seek to enter into an agreement with the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (in this section referred to as the “National Academies”) for the National Academies to carry out the activities described in subsections (b) and (c).

(2) TIMING.—The Secretary shall seek to enter into the agreement described in paragraph (1) not later than 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(b) ANALYSIS BY THE NATIONAL ACADEMIES.—

(1) ANALYSIS.—Under an agreement between the Secretary and the National Academies entered into pursuant to subsection (a), the National Academies shall conduct an analysis of the effectiveness of the Department of Defense Comprehensive Autism Care Demonstration program (in this section referred to as the “demonstration program”) and
develop recommendations for the Secretary based on
such analysis.

(2) ELEMENTS.—The analysis conducted and
recommendations developed under paragraph (1)
shall include the following:

(A) An assessment of the Pervasive Devel-
opmental Disabilities Behavior Inventory as a
measure to assist in the assessment of domains
related to autism spectrum disorder, and a de-
termination as to whether the Secretary is ap-
plying such inventory appropriately under the
demonstration project.

(B) An assessment of the methods used
under the demonstration project to measure the
effectiveness of applied behavior analysis in the
treatment of autism spectrum disorder.

(C) A review of any guidelines or industry
standards of care adhered to in the provision of
applied behavior analysis services under the
demonstration program, including a review of
the effects of such adherence with respect to
dose-response or expected health outcomes for
an individual who has received such services.
(D) A review of the expected health outcomes for an individual who has received applied behavior analysis treatments over time.

(E) An analysis of the increased utilization of the demonstration program by beneficiaries under the TRICARE program, to improve understanding of such utilization.

(F) Such other analyses to measure the effectiveness of the demonstration program as may be determined appropriate by the National Academies.

(G) The development of a list of findings and recommendations related to the measurement, effectiveness, and increased understanding of the demonstration program and its effect on beneficiaries under the TRICARE program.

(c) REPORT.—Under an agreement entered into between the Secretary and the National Academies under subsection (a), the National Academies, not later than nine months after the date of the execution of the agreement, shall—

(1) submit to the congressional defense committees a report on the findings of the National Academies with respect to the analysis conducted and
recommendations developed under subsection (b); and (2) make such report available on a public website in unclassified form.
SEC. 7. STUDY ON JOINT FUND OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE AND THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS FOR FEDERAL ELECTRONIC HEALTH RECORD MODERNIZATION OFFICE.

(a) STUDY.—The Secretary of Defense, in coordination with the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, shall conduct a study on—

(1) the development of a joint fund of the Department of Defense and the Department of Veterans Affairs for the Federal Electronic Health Record Modernization Office; and

(2) the operations of the Federal Electronic Health Record Modernization Office since its establishment, including how the Office has supported the implementation of the Individual Longitudinal Exposure Record program of the Department of Defense and the Department of Veterans Affairs.

(b) ELEMENTS.—The study under subsection (a) shall assess the following:

(1) Justifications for the development of the joint fund.

(2) Options for the governance structure of the joint fund, including how accountability would be di-
vided between the Department of Defense and the Department of Veterans Affairs.

(3) An estimated timeline for implementation of the joint fund.

(4) The anticipated contents of the joint fund, including the anticipated process for annual transfers to the joint fund from the Department of Defense and the Department of Veterans Affairs, respectively.

(5) The progress and accomplishments of the Federal Electronic Health Record Modernization Office during fiscal year 2021 in fulfilling the purposes specified in subparagraphs (C) through (R) of section 1635(b)(2) of the Wounded Warrior Act (title XVI of Public Law 110–181; 10 U.S.C. 1071 note).

(6) The role and contributions of the Federal Electronic Health Record Modernization Office with respect to—

(A) the current implementation of the Electronic Health Record Modernization Program at the Mann-Grandstaff Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center located in Spokane, Washington; and
(B) the strategic review of the Electronic Health Record Modernization Program conducted by the Department of Veterans Affairs.

(7) How dedicated funding for the Federal Electronic Health Record Modernization Office would have affected or altered the role and contributions specified in paragraph (6).

(8) An estimated timeline for the completion of the implementation milestones under section 1635(e) of the Wounded Warrior Act (title XVI of Public Law 110–181; 10 U.S.C. 1071 note), taking into account delays in the implementation of the Electronic Health Record Modernization Program.

(e) REPORT.—Not later than April 1, 2022, the Secretary of Defense, in coordination with the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report on the findings of the study under subsection (a), including recommendations on the development of the joint fund specified in such subsection. Such recommendations shall address—

(1) the purpose of the joint fund; and

(2) requirements related to the joint fund.

(d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) The term “appropriate congressional committees” means—
(A) the Committees on Armed Services of
the House of Representatives and the Senate;
and

(B) the Committees on Veterans’ Affairs of
the House of Representatives and the Senate.

(2) The term “Electronic Health Record Modernization Program” has the meaning given such term in section 503(e) of the Veterans Benefits and Transition Act of 2018 (Public Law 115–407; 132 Stat. 5376).

(3) The term “Federal Electronic Health Record Modernization Office” means the Office established under section 1635(b) of the Wounded Warrior Act (title XVI of Public Law 110–181; 10 U.S.C. 1071 note).
(a) Postpartum Care for Certain Members and Dependents.—

(1) Postpartum Care.—Chapter 55 of title 10, United States Code, is amended by inserting after section 1074o the following new section:

§ 1074p. Postpartum care for certain members and dependents

(a) Postpartum Mental Health Assessments.—(1) At the intervals described in paragraph (2), and upon the consent of the covered individual, the Secretary shall furnish to a covered individual postpartum mental health assessments, which shall include screening questions related to postpartum anxiety and postpartum depression.

(2) The intervals described in this subparagraph are, with respect to the date on which the covered individual gives birth, as follows:

(A) One month after such date.

(B) Two months after such date.

(C) Four months after such date.

(D) Six months after such date.
“(3) The Secretary may adjust the intervals described in paragraph (2) as the Secretary determines appropriate, taking into account the recommendations of established professional medical associations such as the American Academy of Pediatrics.

“(4) Postpartum mental health assessments furnished under paragraph (1) may be provided concurrently with the well-child visits for the infant of the covered individual, including with respect to the initial well-child visit specified in subsection (c).

“(b) PELVIC HEALTH.—(1) Prior to the initial postpartum discharge of a covered individual from the military medical treatment facility at which the covered individual gave birth, the Secretary shall furnish to the covered individual a medical evaluation for pelvic health.

“(2) The Secretary shall ensure that, as the result of an evaluation furnished pursuant to paragraph (1), the health care provider who provided such evaluation determines that physical therapy for pelvic health (including the pelvic floor) is appropriate, a consultation for such physical therapy is provided upon discharge and in connection with a follow-up appointment of the covered individual for postpartum care that occurs during the period that is six to eight weeks after the date on which the covered individual gives birth.
“(3) Consultations offered pursuant to paragraph (2) shall be conducted in-person wherever possible, but if the Secretary determines that a covered individual for whom the consultation is offered is located in a geographic area with an inadequate number of physical therapists or health professionals trained in providing such consultations, the consultation may be provided through a telehealth appointment.

“(e) Concurrent Scheduling of Certain Appointments.—The Secretary shall ensure that there is provided within each military medical treatment facility an option for any covered individual who has given birth at the facility, and who is eligible to receive care at the facility, to schedule a follow-up appointment for postpartum care of the covered individual that is concurrent with the date of the initial well-child visit for the infant of the covered individual.

“(d) Definitions.—In this section:

“(1) The term ‘covered individual’ means a member of the armed forces (including the reserve components) performing active service, or a dependent of such member, who is entitled to medical care under this chapter.

“(2) The term ‘well-child visit’ means a regularly scheduled medical appointment with a pediatri-
cian for the general health and development of a child, as recommended by the American Academy of Pediatrics or a similarly established professional medical association.”.

(2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections at the beginning of such chapter is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 1074o the following new item:

“1074p. Postpartum care for certain members and dependents.”.

(3) EFFECTIVE DATE AND APPLICABILITY.—
The amendments made by this subsection shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act and shall apply with respect to births that occur on or after the date that is six months after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(b) STANDARDIZED POLICIES.—Not later than after 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense shall—

(1) develop a standardized policy under which neither a member of the Armed Forces who gives birth while on active duty, nor a member of the reserve components who gives birth (regardless of whether such birth occurs while the member of the reserve components is performing active service), may be required to take a physical fitness test until
the date that is one year after the date on which such member gave birth;

(2) develop a standardized policy for postpartum body composition assessments with respect to such members; and

(3) ensure the policies developed under paragraphs (1) and (2) are implemented uniformly across each of the Armed Forces.

(e) PILOT PROGRAM TO STREAMLINE POSTPARTUM APPOINTMENTS.—

(1) PILOT PROGRAM.—The Secretary shall carry out a one-year pilot program to further streamline the process of scheduling postpartum appointments at military medical treatment facilities by reducing the number of distinct visits required for such appointments.

(2) STREAMLINING OF APPOINTMENTS.—In carrying out the pilot program under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall ensure that there is provided within each military medical treatment facility selected under paragraph (3) an option for covered individuals who have recently given birth at the facility, and who are eligible to receive care at the facility, to receive a physical therapy evaluation in connection with each appointment provided by the facil-
ity for postpartum care of the covered individual or for care of the infant of the covered individual, including such appointments provided concurrently pursuant to section 1074p(e) of title 10, United States Code (as added by subsection (a)).

(3) SELECTION.—The Secretary shall select not fewer than three military medical treatment facilities from each military department at which to carry out the pilot program under paragraph (1). In making such selection—

(A) the Secretary may not select a military medical treatment facility that already provides covered individuals with the option to receive a physical therapy evaluation as specified in paragraph (2); and

(B) the Secretary shall ensure geographic diversity with respect to the location of the military medical treatment facilities, including by considering for selection military medical treatment facilities located outside of the United States.

(4) REPORT.—Not later than one year after the commencement of the pilot program under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall submit to the Committees on Armed Services of the House of Rep-
resentatives and the Senate a report on the effectiveness of the pilot program. Such report shall include—

(A) a recommendation by the Secretary on whether to expand or extend the pilot program;

and

(B) a summary of the findings that led to such recommendation.

(5) COVERED INDIVIDUAL DEFINED.—In this subsection, the term “covered individual” has the meaning given such term in section 1074p(d) of title 10, United States Code (as added by subsection (a)).

(d) PELVIC HEALTH AT MILITARY MEDICAL TREATMENT FACILITIES.—The Secretary shall take such steps as are necessary to increase the capacity of military medical treatment facilities to provide pelvic health rehabilitation services, including by increasing the number of physical therapists employed at such facilities who are trained in pelvic health rehabilitation.

(e) REVIEW OF PELVIC HEALTH REHABILITATION PROGRAMS.—

(1) REVIEW.—The Secretary shall conduct a review of any current pelvic health rehabilitation programs of the Department of Defense, including an evaluation of the outcomes of any such programs.
(2) REPORT.—Not later than nine months after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to the Committees on Armed Services of the House of Representatives and the Senate a report containing the findings of the review under paragraph (1).

(f) GUIDANCE ON OBSTETRIC HEMORRHAGE TREATMENT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall issue guidance on the development and implementation of standard protocols across the military health system for the treatment of obstetric hemorrhages, including through the use of pathogen reduced resuscitative blood products.
SEC. 7—[Log 73377]. STANDARDIZATION OF DEFINITIONS USED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE FOR TERMS RELATED TO SUICIDE.

(a) Standardization of Definitions.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense, in coordination with the Secretaries of the military departments, shall develop standardized definitions for the following terms:

(1) “Suicide”.

(2) “Suicide attempt”.

(3) “Suicidal ideation”.

(b) Required Use of Standardized Definitions.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall issue policy guidance requiring the exclusive and uniform use across the Department of Defense and within each military department of the standardized definitions developed under subsection (a) for the terms specified in such subsection.

(c) Report.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to the Committees on Armed Services of the House of Representatives and the Senate a report that sets forth the standardized definitions developed under subsection (a) and includes—
(1) a description of the process that was used to develop such definitions;

(2) a description of the methods by which data shall be collected on suicide, suicide attempts, and suicidal ideations (as those terms are defined pursuant to such definitions) in a standardized format across the Department and within each military department; and

(3) an implementation plan to ensure the use of such definitions as required pursuant to subsection (b).
SEC. 7. [Log 73283]. GAO STUDY ON EXCLUSION OF CERTAIN REMARRIED INDIVIDUALS FROM MEDICAL AND DENTAL COVERAGE UNDER TRICARE PROGRAM.

(a) GAO Study.—

(1) Study.—The Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct a study on the purpose and effects of limiting medical and dental coverage under the TRICARE program to exclude remarried widows, widowers, and former spouses of members or former members of the uniformed services.

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

(A) A census of the widows and widowers who currently qualify as a dependent under the TRICARE program pursuant to subparagraph (B) or (C) of section 1072(2) of title 10, United States Code.

(B) A census of the former spouses who currently qualify as a dependent under the TRICARE program pursuant to subparagraph (F), (G), or (H) of such section.

(C) An identification of the number of such widows, widowers, and former spouses who
intend to remarry, and an assessment of whether potential loss of coverage under the TRICARE program has affected the decisions of such individuals to remarry or remain unmarried.

(D) An assessment of the effect, if any, on the military and local communities of an individual who formerly qualified as a dependent under the TRICARE program by reason of being an unmarried widow, widower, or former spouse, as specified in section 1072(2) of title 10, United States Code, when the individual remarries and loses such coverage.

(E) A cost analysis of the expansion of medical and dental coverage under the TRICARE program to include remarried individuals who, but for their remarried status, would otherwise qualify as a dependent under such program.

(b) REPORT.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General shall submit to the Committees on Armed Services of the House of Representatives and the Senate a report containing—

(1) the findings and conclusions of the study under subsection (a); and
(2) recommendations based on such findings and conclusions to improve the dependent categories specified in section 1072(2) of title 10, United States Code, including with respect to whether re-married widows, widowers, and former spouses of members or former members of the uniformed services should remain excluded from coverage under the TRICARE program pursuant to such section.

(e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section, the terms “dependent” and “TRICARE program” have the meanings given such terms in section 1072 of title 10, United States Code.
SEC. 7. [Log 73341]. AUTHORIZATION OF PROGRAM TO PREVENT FRAUD AND ABUSE IN THE MILITARY HEALTH SYSTEM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 55 of title 10, United States Code, is amended by inserting after section 1073e the following new section:

§ 1073f. Health care fraud and abuse prevention program

(a) PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.—(1) The Secretary of Defense may carry out a program under this section to prevent and remedy fraud and abuse in the health care programs of the Department of Defense.

(2) At the discretion of the Secretary, such program may be administered jointly by the Inspector General of the Department of Defense and the Director of the Defense Health Agency.

(3) In carrying out such program, the authorities granted to the Secretary of Defense and the Inspector General of the Department of Defense under section 1128A(m) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1320a–7a(m)) shall be available to the Secretary and the Inspector General.

(b) CIVIL MONETARY PENALTIES.—(1) Except as provided in paragraph (2), the provisions of section 1128a-
of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1320a–7a) shall apply with respect to any civil monetary penalty imposed in carrying out the program authorized under subsection (a).

“(2) Consistent with section 1079a of this title, amounts recovered in connection with any such civil monetary penalty imposed—

“A shall be credited to appropriations available as of the time of the collection for expenses of the health care program of the Department of Defense affected by the fraud and abuse for which such penalty was imposed; and

“B may be used to support the administration of the program authorized under subsection (a), including to support any interagency agreements entered into under subsection (d).

“(c) INTERAGENCY AGREEMENTS.—The Secretary of Defense may enter into agreements with the Secretary of Health and Human Services, the Attorney General, or the heads of other Federal agencies, for the effective and efficient implementation of the program authorized under subsection (a).

“(d) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Joint administration of the program authorized under subsection (a) may not be construed as limiting the authority of the Inspector
General of the Department of Defense under any other provision of law.

“(e) FRAUD AND ABUSE DEFINED.—In this section, the term ‘fraud and abuse’ means any conduct specified in subsection (a) or (b) of section 1128A of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1320a–7a).”.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections at the beginning of such chapter is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 1073e the following new item:

“1073f. Health care fraud and abuse prevention program.”.
SEC. 7. MODIFICATIONS AND REPORT RELATED TO REDUCTION OR REALIGNMENT OF MILITARY MEDICAL MANNING AND MEDICAL BILLETS.


(1) in subsection (a), by striking “180 days following the date of the enactment of the William M. (Mac) Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021” and inserting “the year following the date of the enactment of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2022”;

and

(2) in subsection (b)(1), by inserting “, including any billet validation requirements determined pursuant to estimates provided in the joint medical estimate under section 732 of the John S. McCain National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year
2019 (Public Law 115–232),” after “requirements of the military department of the Secretary”.

(b) GAO Report on Reduction or Realignment of Military Medical Manning and Medical Billets.—

(1) Report.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to the Committees on Armed Services of the House of Representatives and the Senate a report on the analyses used to support any reduction or realignment of military medical Manning, including any reduction or realignment of medical billets of the military departments.

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

(A) An analysis of the use of joint medical estimate under section 732 of the John S. McCain National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2019 (Public Law 115–232; 132 Stat. 1817) and wartime scenarios to determine military medical manpower requirements, including with respect to pandemic influenza and homeland defense missions.
(B) An assessment of whether the Secretaries of the military departments have used the processes under section 719(b) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020 (Public Law 116–92; 133 Stat. 1454) to ensure that a sufficient combination of skills, specialties, and occupations are validated and filled prior to the transfer of any medical billets of a military department to fill other military medical manpower needs.

(C) An assessment of the effect of the reduction or realignment of such billets on local health care networks and whether the Director of the Defense Health Agency has conducted such an assessment in coordination with the Secretaries of the military departments.
SEC. 7. PILOT PROGRAM ON CARDIAC SCREENING AT CERTAIN MILITARY SERVICE ACADEMIES.

(a) PILOT PROGRAM.—The Secretary of Defense shall establish a pilot program to furnish mandatory electrocardiograms to candidates who are seeking admission to a covered military service academy in connection with the military accession screening process, at no cost to such candidates.

(b) SCOPE.—The scope of the pilot program under subsection (a) shall include at least 25 percent of the incoming class of candidates who are seeking admission to a covered military service academy during the first fall semester that follows the date of the enactment of this Act, and the pilot program shall terminate on the date on which the Secretary determines the military accession screening process for such class has concluded.

(e) FACILITIES.—In carrying out the pilot program under subsection (a), the Secretary shall furnish each mandatory electrocardiogram under the pilot program in a facility of the Department of Defense, to the extent practicable, but may furnish such electrocardiograms in a non-Department facility as determined necessary by the Secretary.
(d) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date on which the pilot program under subsection (a) terminates, the Secretary shall submit to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representa-
tives a report on the pilot program. Such report shall include the following:

(1) The results of all electrocardiograms furnished to candidates under the pilot program, disaggregated by military service academy, race, and gender.

(2) The rate of significant cardiac issues detected pursuant to electrocardiograms furnished under the pilot program, disaggregated by military service academy, race, and gender.

(3) The cost of carrying out the pilot program.

(4) The number of candidates, if any, who were disqualified from admission based solely on the result of an electrocardiogram furnished under the pilot program.

(e) COVERED MILITARY SERVICE ACADEMY DE-
FINED.—In this section, the term “covered military serv-
ice academy” does not include the United States Coast Guard Academy or the United States Merchant Marine Academy.
SEC. 7. BRIEFING ON DOMESTIC PRODUCTION OF CRITICAL ACTIVE PHARMACEUTICAL INGREDIENTS.

Not later than April 1, 2022, the Secretary of Defense shall provide to the Committees on Armed Services of the House of Representatives and the Senate a briefing on the development of a domestic production capability for critical active pharmaceutical ingredients and drug products in finished dosage form. Such briefing shall include a description of the following:

(1) The anticipated cost over the period covered by the most recent future-years defense program submitted under section 221 of title 10, United States Code (as of the date of the briefing), to develop a domestic production capability for critical active pharmaceutical ingredients.

(2) The cost of producing critical active pharmaceutical ingredients through such a domestic production capability, as compared with the cost of standard manufacturing processes used by the pharmaceutical industry.

(3) The average time to produce critical active pharmaceutical ingredients through such a domestic production capability, as compared with the average
time to produce such ingredients through standard
manufacturing processes used by the pharmaceutical
industry.

(4) Any intersections between the development
of such a domestic production capability, the mili-
tary health system, and defense-related medical re-
search or operational medical requirements.

(5) Lessons learned from the progress made in
developing such a domestic production capability as
of the date of the briefing, including from any con-
tracts entered into by the Secretary with respect to
such a domestic production capability.

(6) Any critical active pharmaceutical ingredi-
ents that are under consideration by the Secretary
for future domestic production as of the date of the
briefing.

(7) The plan of the Secretary regarding the fu-
ture use of domestic production capability for critical
active pharmaceutical ingredients.
SEC. 7. [Log 73515]. MODIFICATIONS TO PILOT PROGRAM ON HEALTH CARE ASSISTANCE SYSTEM.

Section 731(d) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2018 (10 U.S.C. 1075 note) is amended—

1. in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking “January 1, 2021” and inserting “November 1, 2022”;

2. in paragraph (1), by striking “; and” and inserting a semicolon;

3. in paragraph (2), by striking the period and inserting “; and”; and

4. by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(3) input from covered beneficiaries who have participated in the pilot program regarding their satisfaction with, and any benefits attained from, such participation.”.
SEC. 7. ESTABLISHMENT OF DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE SYSTEM TO TRACK AND RECORD INFORMATION ON VACCINE ADMINISTRATION.

(a) Establishment of System.—Section 1110 of title 10, United States Code, is amended—

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

(2) by inserting after the heading the following new subsection:

“(a) System to Track and Record Vaccine Information.—(1) The Secretary of Defense, in coordination with the Secretaries of the military departments, shall establish a system to track and record the following information:

“(A) Each vaccine administered by a health care provider of the Department of Defense to a member of an armed force under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of a military department.

“(B) Any adverse reaction of the member related to such vaccine.

“(C) Each refusal of a vaccine by such a member on the basis that the vaccine is being administered by a health care provider of the Department
pursuant to an emergency use authorization granted
by the Commissioner of Food and Drugs under sec-
tion 564 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic

“(2) In carrying out paragraph (1), the Secretary of
Defense shall ensure that—

“(A) any electronic health record maintained by
the Secretary for a member of an armed force under
the jurisdiction of the Secretary of a military depart-
ment is updated with the information specified in
such paragraph with respect to the member; and

“(B) any collection, storage, or use of such in-
formation is conducted through means involving
such cyber protections as the Secretary determines
necessary to safeguard the personal information of
the member.”.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Such section is
further amended—

(1) in the heading by striking “Anthrax vac-
cine immunization program; procedures
for exemptions and monitoring reac-
tions” and inserting “System for tracking
and recording vaccine information; an-
thrax vaccine immunization program”; and
(2) in subsection (b), as redesignated by subsection (a)(1), by striking “Secretary of Defense” and inserting “Secretary”.

(c) Clerical Amendment.—The table of sections for chapter 55 of title 10, United States Code, is amended by striking the item relating to section 1110 and inserting the following new item:

“1110. System for tracking and recording vaccine information; anthrax vaccine immunization program.”.

(d) Deadline for Establishment of System.—

The Secretary of Defense shall establish the system under section 1110 of title 10, United States Code, as added by subsection (a), by not later than January 1, 2023.

(e) Report.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the Committees on Armed Services of the House of Representatives and the Senate a report on the administration of vaccines to members of the Armed Forces under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of a military department and on the status of establishing the system under section 1110(a) of title 10, United States Code (as added by subsection (a)). Such report shall include information on the following:

(1) The process by which such members receive vaccines, and the process by which the Secretary tracks, records, and reports on, vaccines received by
such members (including with respect to any transfers by a non-Department provider to the Department of vaccination records or other medical information of the member related to the administration of vaccines by the non-Department provider).

(2) The storage of information related to the administration of vaccines in the electronic health records of such members, and the cyber protections involved in such storage, as required under such section 1110(a)(2) of title 10, United States Code.

(3) The general process by which medical information of beneficiaries under the TRICARE program is collected, tracked, and recorded, including the process by which medical information from providers contracted by the Department or from a State or local department of health is transferred to the Department and associated with records maintained by the Secretary.

(4) Any gaps or challenges relating to the vaccine administration process of the Department and any legislative or budgetary recommendations to address such gaps or challenges.

(f) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:
(1) The term “military departments” has the meaning given such term in section 101 of title 10, United States Code.

(2) The term “TRICARE program” has the meaning given such term in section 1072 of such title.
SEC. 10. PROVIDING END-TO-END ELECTRONIC VOTING SERVICES FOR ABSENT UNIFORMED SERVICES VOTERS IN LOCATIONS WITH LIMITED OR IMMATURE POSTAL SERVICE.

(a) PLAN.—

(1) DEVELOPMENT.—In consultation with the Chief Information Officer of the Department of Defense, the Presidential designee under the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (52 U.S.C. 20301 et seq.) shall develop a plan for providing end-to-end electronic voting services (including services for registering to vote, requesting an electronic ballot, completing the ballot, and returning the ballot) in participating States for absent uniformed services voters under such Act who are deployed or mobilized to locations with limited or immature postal service (as determined by the Presidential designee).

(2) SPECIFICATIONS.—The Presidential designee shall include in the plan developed under paragraph (1)—

(A) methods to ensure that voters have the opportunity to verify that their ballots are re-
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ceived and tabulated correctly by the appropriate State and local election officials;

(B) methods to generate a verifiable and auditable vote trail for the purposes of any recount or audit conducted with respect to an election; and

(C) an assessment of whether commercially available technologies may be used to carry out any of the elements of the plan.

(3) CONSULTATION WITH STATE AND LOCAL ELECTION OFFICIALS.—The Presidential designee shall develop the plan under paragraph (1) in consultation with appropriate State and local election officials to ensure that the plan may be implemented successfully in any State which agrees to participate in the plan.

(4) USE OF CONTRACTORS.—To the extent the Presidential designee determines to be appropriate, the Presidential designee may include in the plan developed under paragraph (1) provisions for the use of contractors to carry out any of the elements of the plan.

(5) SUBMISSION.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Presidential designee shall submit the plan developed
under paragraph (1) to the Committees on Armed Services of the House of Representatives and Senate.

(b) IMPLEMENTATION.—If the Presidential designee determines it feasible, the Presidential designee shall implement the plan developed under subsection (a)—

(1) for a trial group of voters in participating States for elections for Federal office held in 2024;

and

(2) for all such voters in participating States for elections for Federal office held in 2026 and any succeeding year.
SEC. 14. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR ARMED FORCES RETIREMENT HOME.

There is hereby authorized to be appropriated for fiscal year 2022 from the Armed Forces Retirement Home Trust Fund the sum of $75,300,000 for the operation of the Armed Forces Retirement Home.
SEC. 14. [Log 73452]. 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 for section 1405 and available for the Defense Health Program for operation and maintenance, $137,000,000 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).
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Army Aviation Retention Study

The committee recognizes the importance of the United States Army’s aviation mission and corresponding need for strong end strength. U.S. Army aviators have unique skill sets and provide expertise critical to the service’s combat readiness. However, the committee is concerned about the recruitment and retention of qualified pilots and aviation crewmembers and the effect on the Army’s ability to conduct worldwide operations. The U.S. Army must work towards retaining these personnel to avoid a shortage of experienced pilots with the technical and tactical knowledge to maintain aviation readiness.

Therefore, the committee directs the Secretary of the Army to conduct a study and to provide a report to the House Committee on Armed Services by December 31, 2021, on necessary efforts to recruit and retain qualified pilots. The study and report shall include information and recommendations based on, but not limited to:

1. barriers to successful recruitment of qualified pilots;
2. the high operational tempo for Army pilots and its affects on training and readiness, as well as effects on military families;
3. pay and bonus structures for Army pilots and aviation Military Occupational Specialties;
4. the length and structure of aviation contract obligations; and
5. existing retention tools outside of monetary bonuses such as improved quality of life initiatives.

Artificial Intelligence and Personnel Talent Management

The committee recognizes the significant resources that all of the services spend in recruiting and retaining talent across their respective enterprises. The committee is aware of capability gaps within the military services in properly identifying the skills and necessary attributes of personnel to optimize their talent pools. Further, the committee acknowledges that artificial intelligence (AI) and other data science innovations can help better align individuals’ skills to service requirements with predictable successful outcomes, measured through job performance and retention. The committee recognizes that AI can also improve talent management by creating a rich repository of data that can be used to build a more holistic view of skills obtained throughout a career in military service. The committee believes that the technology can improve force readiness by enhancing recruitment efficiency and increasing retention. Ensuring that military service
members are identified for the right missions based on a critical combination of skills and experience will optimize performance and increase mission success. The committee urges the Army and other services to support increased AI investment for talent management and acquisition.

Therefore, the committee directs the Secretary of Defense to provide a briefing to the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives not later than February 1, 2022, on how each of the military services are leveraging commercially available AI platforms that are designed to accurately predict human outcomes and radically improve talent management.

Award of the Prisoner of War Medal

The committee notes the unequal treatment of applicants across the services for award of the Prisoner of War Medal under section 1128(b) of title 10, United States Code, as amended by the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2013 (Public Law 112-239). The Department of the Army specifically has interpreted the statutory requirements in such a narrow way as to block seemingly obvious cases of eligibility, whereas the other service secretaries have implemented the requirements for the award in a much more discretionary fashion as was intended. The committee also understands that not all services have established clear processes for how service members or their next of kin might apply for the Prisoner of War Medal under the provisions of section 1128(b) of title 10, United States Code. The committee encourages the Department of Defense to mandate the sharing of best practices of award criteria across the services. Therefore, the committee directs the Secretaries of the military departments to provide a briefing to the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives not later than March 1, 2022, on the details of the process and criteria by which they consider the award of the Prisoner of War Medal under section 1128(b) of title 10, United States Code.

Briefing on Implementation of U.S. Special Operations Command Diversity and Inclusion Strategic Plan

The committee notes the 1999 RAND study on barriers to minority participation in special operations forces. The committee also understands that the U.S. Special Operations Command struggles to build and maintain a diverse and inclusive force. Therefore, the committee directs the Secretary of Defense, in coordination with the Commander, U.S. Special Operations Command, to provide a briefing to the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives, not later than April 1, 2022, to address the following: (1) the specific tools and metrics devised to evaluate the diversity and inclusivity of recruiting within the special operations community; (2) the potential cultural barriers that may prevent those with diverse backgrounds from serving in the special operations community and possible solutions; and (3) whether the special operations community is measuring the right data points to ensure combat effectiveness, and if not, what data points
should be measured. The briefing shall include implementation efforts and the milestones to fully realize the Diversity and Inclusion Strategic Plan 2021.

Career Intermission Program Evaluation

The committee is concerned about the perceived or real barriers to service members using the Career Intermission Program to its full potential to benefit service member career choices. Therefore, the committee directs the Secretary of Defense to provide a briefing to the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives not later than February 1, 2022, on the utilization rate of the Career Intermission Program, disaggregated by gender, and the barriers perceived by service members, such as promotion opportunity, that would make them hesitate to use the program.

Media Literacy Training

The committee is concerned about the level of media literacy of service members. Therefore, the committee directs the Secretary of Defense to provide a briefing to the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives not later than March 1, 2022, on a strategy to include media literacy, digital literacy, and information literacy as part of regular service member education beginning in basic training and continuing throughout their careers. Additionally, the Secretary will consider the feasibility of making this training available to dependents.

National Guard Active Guard Reserve Program

The committee notes that the Army National Guard relies on a percentage of its overall personnel to work in a full-time support capacity to ensure rapid emergency response, provide administrative and logistical execution of training events, and maintain National Guard facilities and community relations and recruitment of members. The number of full-time support personnel is based on the authorized Army National Guard end strength. This number is currently less than 62 percent of what is authorized across the 54 States and territories. The committee is also concerned about multiple consecutive National Guard tours in the National Capital Region. Therefore, the committee directs the Director of the National Guard Bureau, in consultation with the State Adjutants General, to submit a report to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives not later than April 1, 2022, on the National Guard Bureau Title 10 Active Guard and Reserve Program. The specific elements of the report should:

(1) describe the current composition of the National Guard title 10 program, including the current levels of Army and Air National Guard personnel on Active Duty in support of the Reserves; on title 10 duty in the National Capital Region; on title 10 duty outside of the National Capital Region; and average number of years spent consecutively on title 10 duty.
(2) assess the feasibility of converting title 10 billets to 3-year nonconsecutive rotational billets between title 32 and title 10 status including a recommended timeline of implementation; proposed billets to be converted; criteria used to determine which billets should be converted; effects on State management of officer career progression; and effects on recruiting and retention of the title 32 and title 10 Active Guard Reserve force.

(3) identify the total cost and any barriers to convert 1,000 traditional Guard positions to Active Guard positions every year for the next 10 years, for a total of 10,000 nationwide.

(4) identify any additional legislative language deemed necessary to convert title 10 billets to rotational duty.

National Guard Drill Periods

The committee is concerned that two decades of continual deployment of the National Guard and increasing use of the National Guard for domestic missions including security and more frequent national disaster response, combined with increased drill periods, is exacting a heavier toll on the force and on individual guardsmen than was ever intended. Ignoring or failing to examine this issue and to consider opportunities to mitigate the impact on guardsmen through modifications to drill periods and compensation risks long-term damage to the National Guard and the service it provides to the country.

The committee directs the Chief of the National Guard Bureau to submit a report to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives by February 1, 2022, including, for fiscal years 2019 and 2020, data on the number of guardsmen who were required to drill on more than 10 weekdays during the year; data on the number of guardsmen who were required to drill for more than 38 total days during the year; the distribution of the number of drilling days for guardsmen disaggregated by the 10th, 25th, 50th, 75th, and 90th percentile; and also analyses of the effects of increased mobilization periods and weekday drill periods on National Guard readiness and retention, the adequacy of the current National Guard drill pay structure for drill periods covering weekdays or periods that bring a guardsman’s total days drilled above 38 per year, and the impact of potential duty status reform on these issues.

National Guard Force Apportionment

The committee notes that the current process for National Guard Bureau force structure allocation to the States is based on various factors, including sustainability to man, equip, and ready the unit for its Federal mission. However, this apportionment of the Guard does not consider a State’s demands for its domestic missions, and how those domestic missions may affect a unit’s readiness for the Federal mission.

The committee appreciates the tremendous and extraordinary efforts of the National Guard over the past year that included COVID-19 response, civil unrest,
and natural disasters to go along with their regular Federal missions. These deployments in support of civil authorities are a critical component of the Guard mission. However, these domestic missions have put a strain on State Guard bureaus, especially in those States with lower Guard personnel to population ratios. These States must protect a larger portion of their citizens with fewer resources and personnel, meaning greater deployments. The committee is concerned that these increasing domestic deployments may have an impact on recruiting and retaining qualified individuals and on a State’s ability to man, equip, and ready a unit for its Federal mission.

Therefore, the committee directs the Secretary of Defense, in coordination with the Chief of the National Guard Bureau, to submit a report to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives not later than March 1, 2022, on how the criteria factors in apportionment of personnel to the States consider a State’s demands for its domestic response missions and how those missions affect its readiness for the Federal mission, and whether priority should be given to States meeting their recruitment goals that have the lowest Guard to civilian population ratios and how that may relate to other States’ force structure allocation.

Report on a Digital Technical Skills in the Department of Defense

The committee notes the critical need for military personnel skilled in areas related to Artificial Intelligence (AI) and other digital technical related skill areas important to national security. The final report of the National Security Commission on Artificial Intelligence (NSCAI), dated March 1, 2021, stated “national security agencies need more digital experts now or they will remain unprepared to buy, build, and use AI and associated technologies. The talent deficit in the Department of Defense and the Intelligence Community represents the greatest impediment to being AI-ready by 2025. The government needs new talent pipelines, including a United States Digital Service Academy to train current and future employees”. Therefore, the committee directs the Secretary of Defense, in coordination with the Secretaries of the military department and the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, to submit a report to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives, not later than March 1, 2022, regarding the following:

1. The military manning requirements and career specialties related to AI, cyber and digital warfare;

2. An assessment of digital technical fields as defined by the NSCAI which include artificial intelligence, software engineering, electrical science and engineering, computer science, molecular biology, computational biology, biological engineering, cybersecurity, data science, mathematics, physics, human-computer interaction, robotics, and design and any additional fields mentioned in the report;

3. The future military manning requirements in AI, cyber and digital technical warfare areas as they relate to emerging mission requirements;
(4) The training and education requirements for these types of specialties;
(5) How the Military Service Academies, War Colleges, Military Post Graduate Institutions and other DoD training and education activities are meeting these mission requirements;
(6) An assessment of the NSCAI report recommendations that create a United States Digital Service Academy;
(7) An assessment of the NSCAI report recommendation related to the emphasis on civil service vs. military service;
(8) An assessment of what portions of the NCSAI recommendations should be considered for potential action by the Department of Defense;
(9) An estimate of the education and training costs related to AI, cyber and digital technical warfare fields over the past 5 years and over the Future Years Defense Program.

Report on Data Compromise and Payday Lending

The committee is concerned that service members may be harmed by pervasive breaches of personal data, including payment card breaches at point of sale and card-not-present transactions, by governments and private-sector entities that have occurred in the United States, as well as the use of payday and title loans with disadvantageous terms. The committee directs the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness to provide a briefing to the House Committee on Armed Services by February 1, 2022, assessing the impact and costs of personal data breaches on military personnel, especially those on Active Duty, and the utilization by military personnel of payday and title loans, including the impact on the financial health of service members and the impact on readiness to the Armed Forces.

Small Unit Leadership Training

The committee is concerned that there may be challenges with equipping small unit leaders across the military services with the skills to build trust and enduring relationships with junior service members. The committee also understands the detrimental effect that sexual assault, sexual harassment, extremism, hazing, suicide and other issues have on unit cohesion. Therefore the committee directs the Secretary of Defense, in coordination with the Secretaries of the military departments, to submit a report to the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives not later then February 1, 2022, that provides the following:

(1) a review of small unit leader training across the military services that highlights challenge areas and opportunities for improvement;
(2) a taxonomy of training and grid that ties small unit leaders to the issues raised above and any other issues that may affect good order and discipline not herein contained;
(3) the metrics, both measures of performance and more importantly measures of effectiveness, that lead to changes in behavior;
(4) the current state of funding and the optimal level of funding that will allow the military services to fully address these training issues;
(5) desired end state of this training;
(6) the plan of actions and milestones from each military service that depicts when they will meet desired end state; and
(7) any additional legislation or policy recommendations that should be considered to ensure transformation and timely implementation.

Wargaming at War Colleges and Military Postgraduate Education Institutions

The committee notes the importance of wargaming as an integral component of military training, education, and research. Wargaming has been an essential tool for military commanders across the tactical, operational, and strategic levels of warfare. It also helps military leaders better understand the range of possible warfighting futures, innovate and express new ideas, challenge current warfighting assumptions, and integrate technologies and capabilities into operations and force structure. However, there appears to be a lack of coordination in the wargaming community and in the Department of Defense's academic institutions, challenges with sharing lessons learned in an agile and adaptive manner, and little coordination to ensure programmatic budget decisions are influenced by these sometime crucial military insights.

Therefore, the committee directs the Secretary of Defense, in coordination with the Secretaries of the military departments and the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, to submit a report to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives not later than March 1, 2022, regarding the use of wargaming within the Department of Defense War Colleges and military postgraduate institutions that includes the following:

(1) a description of how and if wargaming is used and how frequently it has been used over the last 10 years;
(2) how wargaming enriches the student learning experiences and how it intersects with Joint Professional Military Education;
(3) how many students and faculty have been exposed to wargaming over the last 10 years;
(4) how are the lessons learned from wargaming captured, disseminated, and integrated;
(5) how much has been spent on wargaming over the last 10 years;
(6) how are wargaming scenarios updated to ensure they continue to meet the challenge of tomorrow's adversary;
(7) how are best practices used to ensure currency, accuracy, and relevance, including the use of classified information, to provide forward-looking war games as instructional tools; and
any recommendations to improve and enhance the use of wargaming at War Colleges and military postgraduate institutions.

TITLE VI—COMPENSATION AND OTHER PERSONNEL BENEFITS
ITEMS OF SPECIAL INTEREST
Assessment of STEM Education in Department of Defense Education Activity Schools

The committee notes that many military children educated through the Department of Defense Education Activity (DODEA) system go on to serve in the military themselves. As part of the effort to build a science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) talent pipeline for both our uniformed and civilian services, the committee believes that DODEA should invest in STEM education to prepare students for careers in these fields, which are critical to national security. The committee therefore directs the Director of the Department of Defense Education Activity to assess the quality of STEM education programs within the DODEA system relative to best-in-class STEM curricula in U.S. public schools, evaluate the performance of DODEA-educated students on the STEM portion of standardized tests, and develop recommendations for strengthening the STEM curriculum in DODEA schools. The committee directs the Secretary of Defense to submit a report to the House Committee on Armed Services not later than February 1, 2022, on the recommendations and an implementation plan.

Basic Allowance for Housing Calculation

The committee is concerned that the method of determining the Basic Allowance for Housing (BAH) is outdated and in need of modernization. The committee finds there can be limitations to the Department of Defense’s calculations for BAH in rural areas or those with low housing stock. The smaller sample size can make it difficult for the Department to assess the median cost of 30-75 sample housing units. This can result in housing benefits that are lower than the actual area cost of living, causing financial hardship for military members, their families, and veterans accessing this benefit as part of the Post 9/11 GI Bill. The committee believes changes should be made to accommodate low housing stock and rural housing supply issues when the Department conducts its Basic Allowance for Housing sampling to improve the accuracy of the calculation and the reality of housing availability and cost in these areas. Therefore, the committee directs the Secretary of Defense to submit a report to the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives not later than February 25, 2022, on whether the process for calculating BAH meets
area cost of living in rural military housing areas that did not meet the Department's standard sample size during the most recent assessment, and a plan for making adjustments to the data gathering and calculation process to better meet the needs in these kinds of communities. The report should additionally make available to the committee the details of the overall process and calculation of BAH across the Department of Defense and whether adjustments to the current methodology are necessary to more realistically determine the rates of BAH.

Bereavement Study

The committee notes the seriousness with which the Department of Defense takes the death of any service member and believes that a review of the programs and processes related to this issue is of importance to assure that family members are appropriately cared for during this trying time. Therefore, the committee directs the Secretary of Defense to submit a report to the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives, not later than March 1, 2022, on the Department of Defense and military departments' Casualty and Mortuary Affairs programs, including an update on the status and effectiveness of the Gold Star Advocate Program and the status of implementation of Government Accountability Office recommendations (GAO-16-569) designed to enhance the effectiveness of the Gold Star Advocate Program. The report shall include information on the governance of the Casualty Assistance Program, goals and metrics used to track the effectiveness of the program, and information on the implementation of casualty assistance officer training and its effect on the quality of the program.

Childcare Best Practices

The committee continues to be concerned that military families continue to face shortages in the availability of child care as the waitlists continue to grow. Child care is also a readiness issue that needs to be addressed and the military services should research new, innovative solutions to this problem. The committee notes that some military installations have had success in establishing community partnerships with school districts, colleges, and nonprofit organizations. This has allowed military installations to lease vacant facilities for childcare operations or has led to creative community partnerships. The committee believes that every military installation should be attempting to replicate these efforts to expand childcare access.

Therefore, the committee directs the Secretary of Defense to submit a report to the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives not later than February 1, 2022, on what efforts nationwide and across the military services are being undertaken to expand community relationships and partnerships with community-based childcare providers. The report should also highlight what barriers exist that deter innovative solutions to the expansion of military childcare facilities.
Department of Defense Education Activity Standardized Record System

The committee is concerned about the standardization of all student records throughout the Department of Defense Education Activity (DODEA) and the specific tracking of students that are gifted or have exceptional needs, including formal Exceptional Family Member Program students. Therefore, the committee directs the Secretary of Defense to submit a report to the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives not later than April 1, 2022, that assesses the feasibility of developing an electronic records system that follows students through the DODEA system when they move between permanent change of duty stations. This feasibility assessment will consider the inclusion of their standardized test scores and placement data so that routinely retaking courses or tests is unnecessary.

Hazardous Duty Pay Parity

The committee recognizes the important contributions of paratroopers serving throughout the military. However, the committee is concerned that a disparity in hazardous duty pay may exist between Active Component and Reserve Component paratroopers. Therefore, 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 not later than April 1, 2022, assessing whether a hazardous duty pay disparity exists between components, rationale for any potential disparity, any cost associated with bringing these pays in direct alignment, and recommendations that should be considered for legislative action.

In-Home Childcare Licensures

The committee continues to be concerned about the availability of child care and the emphasis that the Department of Defense has put on in-home childcare licensures. Therefore, the committee directs the Secretary of Defense to submit a report to the House Committee on Armed Services not later than February 1, 2022, on childcare licensures and in-home provider care on military installations. The report will answer the following questions:

(1) how many in-home licenses have been applied for;
(2) how many were granted;
(3) how many are needed;
(4) how long does the licensing process take;
(5) is the process too cumbersome and bureaucratic to be useful as it stands; and

(6) how can the application process be shortened or speeded up.
Reserve Component Service Member Benefits

The committee is concerned that the earned post-service benefits for Reserve Component service members, specifically career reservists, are not being communicated to them in a clear, concise, and easily understandable manner and therefore these service members may not ultimately access these earned benefits. Because of the nature of Reserve Component service with breaks in activation, or the length of time between service and discharge or retirement, a clear communication and understanding of how to qualify for or have access to post-service benefits for reservists is critical. Therefore, the committee directs the Secretary of Defense to submit a report to the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives, not later than March 1, 2022, that describes and assesses the process, timing, and comprehensiveness of the communication of available post-service benefits to Reserve Component service members, how many full-time reservists access the GI Bill and at what rate as well as any recommendations to increase GI Bill benefits for reservists.

TITLE VII—HEALTH CARE PROVISIONS

ITEMS OF SPECIAL INTEREST

Blast Injury Health Policy Review

The committee commends the Department of Defense for its continued research and development activities related to blast injuries and the diagnosis and treatment of traumatic brain injury (TBI).

Although the Department has spent approximately $1.8 billion over the last 10 years on TBI-related research and development, it has pursued only a handful of projects focused on TBI preventative devices. The committee is aware of the U.S. Special Forces Command's Comprehensive Strategy for Special Operations Forces Warfighter Brain Health and the Blast Exposure Monitoring (BEMO) initiative to operationalize and deploy automated blast exposure monitoring among service members and recommends the Department evaluate BEMO as a model for service-wide blast exposure monitoring. The committee also urges the Department to develop a comprehensive strategy for deployment of automated blast monitoring across the force to include development, program management, and acquisition, and consider non-helmet TBI preventative devices as part of the solution to monitor exposure in training and in combat.

The committee directs the Secretary of Defense to provide a briefing to the House Committee on Armed Services, not later than February 1, 2022, that includes the following:
(1) a comprehensive Department of Defense strategy to provide joint strategic direction to the Department and Military Health System including standardized operational requirements for neurotrauma prevention, detection, diagnosis, treatment (to include non-combat related concussion and blast exposure), and integration of training programs for innovative solutions necessary to enhance warfighter performance through targeted specific mental health assessment, data metrics, data analysis, training, and implementation.

(2) an incorporation of findings and recommendations of the forthcoming National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine study on neurotrauma.

(3) an assessment of the impact of broadening the definition of a military acute concussive event for establishing the collection and documentation of exposure information that will support the Department of Defense as it sets formal thresholds and then modifies those thresholds as the science develops further.

(4) an assessment of non-helmet TBI preventative devices that have Food and Drug Administration clearance and are in use by numerous professional athletes that should be a key component of the Department of Defense’s holistic effort to combat TBI, both in training and in combat.

(5) an assessment of the effectiveness of appropriated defense research dollars (including Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs) in producing measurable improvements in the prevention, detection, diagnosis, and treatment of brain injury for service members with recommendations on improvement to defense brain injury research oversight.

Burn and Wound Care Innovation

The committee understands that polytrauma injuries, such as massive burns and open wounds, are among the most common combat injuries. Burn wounds usually require debridement as soon as possible after injury to preserve skin, remove dead tissue, and avoid infection, which requires resources that are typically unavailable in a battlefield environment. Burn wounds have a high risk of infection that can lead to amputations, longer hospital stays, and complications, resulting in longer, more challenging rehabilitation for service members, including the possibility of being unable to return to duty or active life. The committee directs the Secretary of Defense to provide a briefing to the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives by February 1, 2022, that assesses possible burn care innovations that can be used without a surgeon or sterile environment that can treat burn wounds and result in equal or better patient outcomes.

Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear Medical Response

The committee applauds the Secretary of Defense’s deployment of military assets to speed ongoing COVID-19 vaccination efforts in the United States. The committee also notes that the Department of Defense provided significant support to State and local agencies in the initial stages of the national pandemic response in 2020. Not only did medical units from the Army, Navy, and Air Force render
invaluable support, but other elements of the force, particularly the National Guard, provided essential logistical and security support to overwhelmed State and local governments and medical facilities. While individual units did outstanding work, the committee believes the Department’s response could have been better coordinated. Such coordination is essential, given the disruptive nature and frequency of these events, from the West African Ebola response in 2014 to the present.

The committee believes that the United States military will always be a primary supporting responder to mass events, whether caused by infectious disease or an adversary-generated chemical, biological, radiological, or nuclear (CBRN) event. Unfortunately, the first time that line units, military medical providers, and local authorities ever acted jointly is in the occurrence of an actual event, as was the case of the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) during the Ebola mission to Africa. At no time were CBRN first line responders, military healthcare providers, and local officials afforded the opportunity to train jointly in the operational medical response to an epidemic or CBRN attack. This deficiency must be addressed. To that end, the committee understands that the CBRN School at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, as well as other locations with CBRN military capabilities may provide integrated medical and line unit training for these types of contingencies to remedy these gaps in training.

Therefore, the committee directs the Secretary of Defense to submit a report to the congressional defense committees by March 1, 2022, on plans to institute integrated medical, line unit, and civil authority training for an epidemic or CBRN event, to include possible locations for such training and the capabilities that may be used during the training to include throughput.

Determination of Eligibility for Adult Incapacitated Children of Service Members

The committee understands there are approximately 31,000 incapacitated adult child dependents enrolled for benefits in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System. An incapacitated adult child must be dependent on the Active Duty or retired service member for over one-half of the child’s support. The Government Accountability Office (GAO) Report 20-335 found the Department of Defense policy provides limited guidance and inconsistent standards resulting in the military services developing fragmented approaches for processing applications. It also discovered that the calculations for some incapacitated adult children were made based on a formula called the Family Unit Rule. Moreover, the Marine Corps apparently assigns all adults in the household, including incapacitated adult children, two shares of household expenses, and minor children one share, whereas the Defense Finance Accounting Service, Army, Navy, and Air Force calculate these shares differently, which creates an inconsistent application of policy.

Therefore, 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, not later than February 1, 2022, that includes the following:
(1) revised guidance for financial determinations and consistent medical standards for all of the military services to use in determining the dependency status of incapacitated adult children.

(2) consistent application of the Family Unit Rule which assigns all adults in the household, including incapacitated adult children, two shares of household expenses, and minor children one share.

(3) clarification of the definition of a nondependent family member in DOD Instruction 1315.19 and the circumstances under which nondependent family members should be considered for services provided by the Exceptional Family Member Program.

(4) clearly defined oversight responsibilities of the Department of Defense Human Resources Activity and the military services for the incapacitated adult child dependency process, including the consistent tracking, monitoring, and reporting of reliable data on incapacitated adult child dependency applications and determinations across the military services for use in data-driven decision-making.

(5) the status of other recommendations as reported in GAO Report 20-335.

Holistic Health and Fitness Programs

The committee recognizes that preventable musculoskeletal injuries negatively impact soldier health, Army readiness, and impose a significant healthcare cost burden. The committee also understands that the Army Holistic Health and Fitness (H2F) Program is designed to optimize individual performance and create stronger, fitter, and faster soldiers better prepared for the practical challenges they face both on and off the battlefield. Moreover, the committee recognizes that equipment and facilities are essential elements of the H2F system and that the Soldier Performance Readiness Center (SPRC) is an integral part of the H2F programming, as it provides a supportive individually focused fitness training environment where comprehensive, integrated, and immersive physical and nonphysical programming is delivered.

Therefore, the committee directs the Secretary of Defense, in coordination with the Secretary of the Army and the Army H2F Program, to submit a report to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives, not later than April 1, 2022, that includes the following:

(1) musculoskeletal injury prevention research efforts focused on identifying risk factors for musculoskeletal injuries among members of the Armed Forces and creating a better understanding for adaptive musculoskeletal and bone formation during initial entry military training.

(2) gaps in musculoskeletal injury prevention research to include anticipated budget that would be suitable to fill these gaps.

(3) recommendations on the designation of a program executive office that would have oversight and management of the Army's performance health and fitness equipment and facility acquisition, contracting, and sustainment processes.
(4) recommendations to include a timeline on the establishment of a sustainment cycle for SPRCs, container gyms, Army Combat Fitness Test lane equipment, and used gyms-in-a-box.

Impact of Mental Health Copays Report

The committee is concerned that increases in certain TRICARE specialty care copays have had an impact on the utilization of outpatient mental health visits and physical, speech, and occupational therapy visits by Group A beneficiaries. Therefore, 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 not later than March 1, 2022, that includes an analysis comparing the utilization rates of outpatient mental health visits and physical, speech, and occupational therapy visits by Group A beneficiaries in 2016 and 2017 (before copays increased) to utilization rates of these services in 2018 and 2019 (after copays increased.) Data for 2020 will not be included due to the impact of COVID-19 on healthcare utilization. Utilization will be measured by unique users, average/median number of visits per user, percent of users with only one visit, distribution of users across binned number of visits (1 visit only; 2-3 visits; 4-6 visits; 7-9 visits; 10-12 visits; more than 12 visits) and other measures the Secretary deems appropriate. For TRICARE Prime beneficiaries, the analysis will assess the percentage of patients referred for these services who actually accessed care. The analysis shall cross tabulate data for each beneficiary sponsor category (Active Duty versus retired versus medically retired) and TRICARE Plan (Prime versus Select), given that copays vary across these groups.

Individual First-Aid Kits Improvements

The committee understands that improving troop readiness and reducing preventable deaths on the battlefield are top priorities. Individual first-aid kits (IFAKs) and combat lifesaver kits (CLS) contain products that are designed to improve lifesaving performance by every combatant. A simplified supply chain with synchronized manufacturing for these products is critical to serving the warfighter and effectively using funding. The committee is concerned that the current logistics systems may be unsynchronized and that IFAKs/CLSs in tactical units require extensive management of approximately 180,000 single items, from depots to the individual service member level, each with its own expiration date and Food and Drug Administration (FDA) manufacturer lot number. Therefore, 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 not later than May 1, 2022, that includes the following:

(1) comprehensive review of the current procurement system for the IFAKs/CLSs, including the following: the effects of purchasing, and the locations and destination of IFAK components from different contractors via different procurement channels; shipping, fees and storage costs of the IFAK/CLS
components prior to kitting; personnel costs associated with labeling and kitting the IFAKs; storage and shipping costs of the IFAK/CLS prior to delivering the IFAK/CLS to the service members; the different shelf life for each component in the IFAK/CLS and its impact on readiness; estimated brigade unit-level man-hours associated with monthly, quarterly, annual requirements for inspection, inventory, documentation, and reporting requirements for maintaining IFAKs/CLSs; and the ability of the services and warfighter to track and conduct an FDA-directed safety recall of an IFAK/CLS component.

(2) a review of the benefits of synchronizing the manufacturing and kitting of individual IFAK/CLS components throughout the entire supply chain in an FDA-registered facility to ensure the quality of the first-aid kits and combat lifesaver kits.

Innovations in Suicide Prevention Efforts

The committee recognizes that suicides are tragic events that affect the military community on a daily basis and that the military’s response to suicidal thoughts, attempts, and deaths involves clinical and non-clinical approaches. Clinical efforts may include depression and suicide-specific screening in primary care and during annual periodic health assessments. Non-clinical efforts include activities such as facilitating training of service members in problem-solving, coping skills, and financial literacy. The committee is concerned that despite these efforts to reduce the risk of suicide, the suicide rate appears to be increasing at an alarming rate. Therefore, the committee directs the Secretary of Defense to provide a briefing to the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives, not later than March 1, 2022, on how the Department of Defense and the military services are incorporating innovative technologies such as artificial intelligence and machine learning in identifying at-risk individuals, as well as the usefulness of predictive analytics in this arena. In addition, the briefing should include how the Department of Defense and the military services are measuring the effectiveness of recently deployed risk reduction tools such as the Army Commander Risk Reduction Toolkit, the Navy’s Commander Risk Mitigation Dashboard, the National Guard’s Springboard, and the Marine Corps’ Command Individual Risk and Resiliency Assessment System at aggregating risk indicators for suicide prevention.

Medication Optimization Plan

The committee recognizes that 99 percent of those who have served in the military have at least one actionable pharmacogenomic variant, every 2 minutes someone dies from an adverse drug event (ADE), and over half of people are prescribed at least one drug where pharmacogenomic information would be critical to dosage or patient harm. Moreover, pharmacogenomic testing, analysis, alerting, and entry into the military electronic health record system may be an essential part of precision medicine and has the potential to save service members’ lives, improve outcomes, and lower expenditures.
Therefore, the committee directs the Secretary of Defense to provide a briefing to the House Committee on Armed Services not later than March 1, 2022, on how the Department of Defense may be able to implement a plan to optimize medications and reduce ADEs among service members and dependents. This plan should include an assessment of:

1. the current strategies used to optimize medications and reduce ADEs, including the role of pharmacists;
2. the feasibility of incorporating pharmacogenomic testing and clinical decision support tools and aligning efforts across the Defense Health Agency, the military departments and the Military Health System;
3. an implementation plan to integrate pharmacogenomic testing results into the electronic health record in a manner that informs medication management decisions long term; 
4. any existing acquisition authorities that may be used to catalyze innovative partnerships to rapidly achieve this effort; and 
5. any costs associated with the potential implementation plan.

Mental Health Services

The committee is concerned that the demand for mental health-related services within the Department of Defense may be at a critical breaking point. The recently released Government Accountability Office Report 21-437R indicated that COVID-19 has further exacerbated mental health access challenges across the United States. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention surveys found about 38 percent of respondents reported symptoms of anxiety or depression from April 2020 through February 2021, up from about 11 percent in 2019. Emergency department visits for overdoses and suicide attempts from mid-March to mid-October 2020 were up 36 percent and 26 percent, respectively, from 2019. Many behavioral health service providers reported increasing demand and decreasing staff sizes.

Therefore, 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, not later than February 1, 2022, that includes the following:

1. a review of how the Health Professions Scholarship Program can be expanded to increase the number of mental health-related scholarships granted, with the goal of increasing the pipeline of mental health providers.
2. a review of how the Department of Defense can prioritize an increase in Special and Incentive Pays to maximize the retention of Active Duty mental health providers.
3. a review of how the Department of Defense can increase General Schedule paygrades for mental health providers working in military treatment facilities.
4. a plan to establish a pilot program that uses information technology-based human performance synthetic training systems capable of advanced
biometric data collection and reporting that can be used to: establish and monitor
cognitive and physical baselines for service members throughout their careers and
aid in forecasting, assessment, and diagnosis of mental health issues, including
post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD); explore the effectiveness of integrating
PTSD resiliency skills with warfighter tactical training; and utilize data analytics
to improve training protocols and effective mitigation strategies and tactics.

National Disaster Medical System Medical Surge Pilot

The committee affirms the primary mission of the Military Health System
to ensure the medical readiness of the Armed Forces and the combat effectiveness of
the defense establishment. While this fundamental cornerstone of defense health is
undisputed, the committee is concerned that more attention must be placed on
medical capabilities and surge capacity required for the global pandemic and
homeland defense mission. To address this need, section 741 of the William M.
(Mac) Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021 (Public
Law 116-283) directed implementation of a pilot program for civilian and military
partnerships to increase medical surge capability and enhance interoperability of
the National Disaster Medical System (NDMS). The committee also observes that
the House Appropriations Committee Subcommittee on Defense, in its committee
report to accompany the Department of Defense Appropriations Bill, 2021 (H. Rept.
116-453), similarly directed accelerated execution of this pilot program and directed
that a first location partnership be underway in calendar year 2021. The
congressional defense committees remain concerned about the medical,
surveillance, and preventive medicine capabilities of the Military Health System to
support both a global pandemic and homeland defense mission.

Therefore, 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, not later than March 1, 2022, that includes the following:

(1) the medical, surveillance, and preventive medicine capabilities that
would be used to support a global pandemic and health-related homeland defense
missions;
(2) a list of the coordination, exercises, and support agreements between the
Department of Defense and NDMS partners;
(3) a rough order of magnitude on the bed capacity that would be available
to the Department of Defense through NDMS partner healthcare facilities;
(4) the gaps that currently exist between the Department of Defense and
NDMS partners; and
(5) a rough estimate of cost associated with fixing any gaps that would
improve the capabilities between the Department of Defense and NDMS partners.
National Guard Telehealth Capability

The committee notes that the Periodic Health Assessment (PHA) is a screening tool used by the Armed Forces to evaluate the individual medical readiness of service members. It is the first of what may be several activities that provide the information needed by the surgeons general to assess individual mission readiness. Administration of the PHA for the Guard and Reserves is uniquely challenging.

Members of the Guard and Reserves, who generally live and work in their communities rather than on a military installation, have multiple training requirements and limited time during drill weekends. Currently, the PHA must be completed with a secure military facility computer or via a Common Access Card (CAC)-enabled computer (not a mobile device). Completion of the PHA requires that the Guard or Reserve member have access to a computer and CAC card reader, take time off work and travel to a military facility to use a military computer, or take time away from training to complete the PHA during training time. It is logistically and administratively difficult and places burden on members of the Guard and Reserves.

As a result, the committee urges the National Guard to establish a secure mobile application that provides the capability for a member of the National Guard to complete the PHA self-assessment and follow-up information and screenings on a personally owned smartphone, tablet computer, or other handheld mobile device that can communicate with a military network. Therefore, the committee directs the Chief of the National Guard Bureau to submit a report to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives not later than March 1, 2022, on the plan and progress for implementing telehealth Periodic Health Assessments.

Ocular Trauma Specialized Care

The committee understands the goals of the Department of Defense Vision Center of Excellence are to improve vision health, optimize readiness, and enhance quality of life for service members and veterans. However, the committee is concerned that recent medical manning divestitures taken on by the military medical departments of the services may adversely impact the availability of ocular services throughout the Department of Defense. Therefore, the committee directs the Secretary of Defense, in coordination with the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the Secretaries of the military departments, to submit a report to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives, not later than March 1, 2022, that includes the following:

1. a review of medical manpower warfighter readiness, requirements, and capabilities for vision trauma and ocular care to include training and Graduate Medical Education as they relate to all national defense strategy scenarios.
(2) any planned military medical manning divestitures in all areas of ocular to include sensory injuries with ophthalmology and optometry requirements by service and location.

(3) the feasibility of establishing at least four regional medical hubs for enhanced treatment of ocular trauma and traumatic brain injury vision dysfunction injuries with the hubs associated with a major military medical center as the primary center for providing specialized medical services in that region and co-located with major aerial debarkation points within the medical evacuation system.

(4) an analysis of access standards and funding for ocular services over the last 5 years in both the direct care system and purchased care.

Rare Cancer Treatment Report

The committee commends the Department of Defense for starting to address exposure risks that can correlate with cancer, but remains concerned about how care is provided to service members following diagnosis of cancer. Over 60 cancers disproportionately impact those who have served in the military and most are rare cancers, defined as fewer than 6 new cases per 100,000 Americans per year. Few targeted treatments are being developed and made available for service members and understanding the specific molecular driver for each patient’s cancer is vital to informing the best treatment.

The committee directs the Secretary of Defense to submit a report to the Senate Committee on Armed Services and the House Committee on Armed Services not later than March 1, 2022, that includes the following:

(1) a description of the specific types of molecular diagnostics, such as microarray, whole exome, and RNA sequencing, which the Department of Defense is providing to beneficiaries diagnosed with cancer and their frequency of use;
(2) the Department’s detailed policy for data-sharing practices for cancer cell lines and models with the external research community;
(3) the feasibility of the Department to engage in public-private partnerships to use a next-generation, precision-oncology platform that integrates bioinformatics, machine learning, and mathematics to unveil unprecedented insights into cancer and moves beyond a single-target-based approach. This approach should seek to identify complex and interconnected mechanisms responsible for drug response and resistance revealed in the human transcriptome to determine the best treatments and facilitate developing new ones and any potential costs associated with this; and
(4) the method by which the Department provides information to all clinicians treating TRICARE and Military Health System patients on the value of using molecular diagnostics for all cancer patients and reimburses for these important diagnostics at the time of diagnosis.
Telehealth Licensure Flexibility Review

The committee recognizes that the Department of Defense implemented several temporary policy changes because of the COVID-19 pandemic. The committee is interested in the feasibility of retaining some of those policy changes in effect, such as the waiving of certain licensing requirements allowing interstate telehealth appointments with TRICARE-authorized providers. Therefore, the committee directs the Secretary of Defense to submit a report to the Senate Committee on Armed Services and the House Committee on Armed Services by March 1, 2022, on the feasibility and estimated cost of extending these flexibilities permanently.

TRICARE Dental Contracting

The committee recognizes the importance and value of the TRICARE Dental Program (TDP) to service members and their beneficiaries. The committee is also aware that the plan to transfer TDP to the Federal Employees Dental and Vision Insurance Program (FEDVIP) resulted in unintended consequences: increased beneficiary choices came at an increased cost to them and limited the Department’s ability to provide the benefit to beneficiaries living overseas. The FEDVIP option would also result in potential increased cost to government, convoluted requirements between agencies to provide subsidies, and complicated communication with beneficiaries. Therefore, the committee directs the Secretary of Defense to provide a briefing to the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives not later than February 1, 2022, on the plan to transition the TDP contract that addresses the challenges raised above.

TRICARE Reimbursement of Critical Access Hospitals

The committee is concerned about the impact of inadequate TRICARE reimbursement for care in Critical Access Hospitals. Therefore, the committee directs the Secretary of Defense to submit a report to the Senate Committee on Armed Services and the House Committee on Armed Services by February 1, 2022, that includes the following:

1. a review of current TRICARE reimbursements for all Critical Access Hospitals nearby military installations;
2. a geographic review and comparison of reimbursement rates for all other hospitals participating in TRICARE;
3. a review and identification of healthcare providers currently receiving rates less than current comparable Medicaid rates for TRICARE services; and
4. a review of the impact of healthcare provider closures on military access to health care and readiness, including Critical Access Hospitals or Rural Access Hospitals that currently receive less than Medicaid rate for a portion of TRICARE services provided.