

107TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 2436

To amend title 10, United States Code, to require the Secretary of Defense to carry out a quadrennial review of the quality of life in the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 1, 2002

Ms. LANDRIEU introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Armed Services

A BILL

To amend title 10, United States Code, to require the Secretary of Defense to carry out a quadrennial review of the quality of life in the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

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

3 **SECTION 1. QUADRENNIAL QUALITY OF LIFE REVIEW.**

4 (a) REQUIREMENT FOR REVIEW.—Chapter 23 of title
5 10, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end
6 the following new section:

1 **“§ 888. Quadrennial quality of life review**

2 “(a) REVIEW REQUIRED.—(1) The Secretary of De-
3 fense shall every four years, two years after the submission
4 of the quadrennial defense review to Congress under sec-
5 tion 118 of this title, conduct a comprehensive examina-
6 tion of the quality of life of the members of the armed
7 forces (to be known as the ‘quadrennial quality of life re-
8 view’). The review shall include examination of the pro-
9 grams, projects, and activities of the Department of De-
10 fense, including the morale, welfare, and recreation activi-
11 ties.

12 “(2) The quadrennial review shall be designed to re-
13 sult in determinations, and to foster policies and actions,
14 that reflect the priority given the quality of life of mem-
15 bers of the armed forces as a primary concern of the De-
16 partment of Defense leadership.

17 “(3) Each quadrennial quality of life review shall be
18 conducted in consultation with the Chairman of the Joint
19 Chiefs of Staff.

20 “(b) CONDUCT OF REVIEW.—Each quadrennial qual-
21 ity of life review shall be conducted so as—

22 “(1) to assess quality of life priorities and
23 issues consistent with the most recent National Se-
24 curity Strategy prescribed by the President pursuant
25 to section 108 of the National Security Act of 1947
26 (50 U.S.C. 404a);

1 “(2) to identify actions that are needed in order
2 to provide members of the armed forces with the
3 quality of life reasonably necessary to encourage the
4 successful execution of the full range of missions
5 that the members are called on to perform under the
6 national security strategy;

7 “(3) to provide a full accounting of the backlog
8 of installations in need of maintenance and repair,
9 to determine how the disrepair affects performance
10 and quality of life of members and their families,
11 and to identify the budget plan that would be re-
12 quired to provide the resources necessary to remedy
13 the backlog of maintenance and repair; and

14 “(4) to identify other actions that have the po-
15 tential for improving the quality of life of the mem-
16 bers of the armed forces.

17 “(c) CONSIDERATIONS.—Among the matters consid-
18 ered by the Secretary in conducting the quadrennial re-
19 view, the Secretary shall include the following matters:

20 “(1) Infrastructure.

21 “(2) Military construction.

22 “(3) Physical conditions at military installations
23 and other Department of Defense facilities.

24 “(4) Budget plans.

1 “(5) Adequacy of medical care for members of
2 the armed forces and their dependents.

3 “(6) Adequacy of housing and the basic allow-
4 ance for housing and basic allowance for subsistence.

5 “(7) Housing-related utility costs.

6 “(8) Educational opportunities and costs.

7 “(9) Length of deployments.

8 “(10) Rates of pay, and pay differentials be-
9 tween the pay of members and the pay of civilians.

10 “(11) Retention and recruiting efforts.

11 “(12) Workplace safety.

12 “(13) Support services for spouses and chil-
13 dren.

14 “(14) Other elements of Department of Defense
15 programs and Federal Government policies and pro-
16 grams that affect the quality of life of members.

17 “(d) SUBMISSION OF QQLR TO CONGRESSIONAL
18 COMMITTEES.—The Secretary shall submit a report on
19 each quadrennial quality of life review to the Committees
20 on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Rep-
21 resentatives. The report shall be submitted not later than
22 September 30 of the year in which the review is conducted.
23 The report shall include the following:

24 “(1) The results of the review, including a com-
25 prehensive discussion of how the quality of life of

1 members of the armed forces affects the national se-
2 curity strategy of the United States.

3 “(2) The long-term quality of life problems of
4 the armed forces, together with proposed solutions.

5 “(3) The short-term quality of life problems of
6 the armed forces, together with proposed solutions.

7 “(4) The assumptions used in the review.

8 “(5) The effects of quality of life problems on
9 the morale of the members of the armed forces.

10 “(6) The quality of life problems that affect the
11 morale of members of the reserve components in
12 particular, together with solutions.

13 “(7) The effects of quality of life problems on
14 military preparedness and readiness.

15 “(8) The appropriate ratio of—

16 “(A) the total amount expended by the De-
17 partment of Defense in a fiscal year for pro-
18 grams, projects, and activities designed to im-
19 prove the quality of life of members of the
20 armed forces, to

21 “(B) the total amount expended by the De-
22 partment of Defense in the fiscal year.

23 “(e) INDEPENDENT REVIEW.—Before submitting the
24 report on the quadrennial quality of life review under sub-
25 section (d), the Secretary of Defense shall make the report

1 available for review and comment by entities independent
 2 of the Department of Defense that are concerned with the
 3 quality of life of members of the armed forces.

4 “(f) CJCS REVIEW.—Upon the completion of each
 5 quadrennial quality of life review, the Chairman of the
 6 Joint Chiefs of Staff shall prepare and submit to the Sec-
 7 retary of Defense the Chairman’s assessment of the re-
 8 view, including the Chairman’s assessment of the quality
 9 of life of members of the armed forces. The Chairman’s
 10 assessment shall be submitted to the Secretary of Defense
 11 in time for the inclusion of the assessment in the report.
 12 The Secretary shall include the Chairman’s assessment,
 13 together with the Secretary’s comments, in the report in
 14 its entirety.”.

15 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections
 16 at the beginning of such chapter is amended by adding
 17 at the end the following new item:

“888. Quadrennial quality of life review.”.

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