

113TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1760

To amend the statutory authorities of the Coast Guard to improve the quality of life for current and former Coast Guard personnel and their families, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

NOVEMBER 21, 2013

Mr. BEGICH introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

A BILL

To amend the statutory authorities of the Coast Guard to improve the quality of life for current and former Coast Guard personnel and their families, 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. SHORT TITLE; REFERENCES TO TITLE 14,**
4 **UNITED STATES CODE.**

5 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the
6 “Coast Guard Quality of Life Act”.

7 (b) REFERENCES TO TITLE 14, UNITED STATES
8 CODE.—Except as otherwise expressly provided, whenever

1 in this Act an amendment or repeal is expressed in terms
2 of an amendment to, or repeal of, a section or other provi-
3 sion, the reference shall be considered to be made to a
4 section or other provision of title 14, United States Code.

5 **SEC. 2. EXPEDITED REIMBURSEMENT FOR MEDICAL**
6 **GOODS AND SERVICES.**

7 Notwithstanding section 1085 of title 10, United
8 States Code, or any other requirements under chapter 55
9 of that title providing for the reimbursement of inpatient
10 or outpatient medical or dental care that the Department
11 of Defense or a military department has provided to a
12 member or former member of the Coast Guard or a de-
13 pendent thereof, the Secretary of the department in which
14 the Coast Guard is operating, in lieu of such reimburse-
15 ment, shall transfer from funds appropriated for the oper-
16 ating expenses of the Coast Guard an amount determined
17 by the Board of Actuaries to represent the value of care
18 that the Department of Defense or a military department
19 shall provide, during the fiscal year in which funds are
20 made available, to a member or former member of the
21 Coast Guard or a dependent thereof.

22 **SEC. 3. FLAG OFFICERS; DETERMINATION OF UNFITNESS.**

23 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter D of chapter 11 is
24 amended by adding at the end the following:

1 **“§ 316. Flag officers; determination of unfitness**

2 “When the Coast Guard is not operating as a service
3 in the Navy—

4 “(1) section 1216(d) of title 10 shall not apply
5 with respect to any member who is a flag officer
6 being processed for retirement by reason of age or
7 length of service; and

8 “(2) the Secretary may, with respect to any
9 member who is a flag officer being processed for re-
10 tirement by reason of age or length of service—

11 “(A) retire such member under section
12 1201 of title 10;

13 “(B) place such member on the temporary
14 disability retired list under section 1202 of title
15 10; or

16 “(C) separate such member from the Coast
17 Guard under section 1203 of title 10;

18 by reason of unfitness to perform the duties of the
19 flag officer’s office, grade, rank, or rating without
20 approval by the Secretary of Defense or the rec-
21 ommendation of the Assistant Secretary of Defense
22 for Health Affairs.”.

23 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of con-
24 tents for subchapter D of chapter 11 is amended by add-
25 ing at the end, the following:

“316. Flag officers; determination of fitness.”.

1 **SEC. 4. COAST GUARD REMISSION OF INDEBTEDNESS.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 461 is amended to read
3 as follows:

4 **“§ 461. Remission of indebtedness**

5 “The Secretary or the Secretary’s designee may have
6 remitted or cancelled any part of a person’s indebtedness
7 to the United States or any instrumentality of the United
8 States if—

9 “(1) the indebtedness was incurred while the
10 person served on active duty as a member of the
11 Coast Guard; and

12 “(2) the Secretary or the Secretary’s designee
13 considers remitting or cancelling any part of the in-
14 debtedness to be in the best interest of the United
15 States.”.

16 (b) TECHNICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents
17 for chapter 13 is amended by striking the item relating
18 to section 461 and inserting the following:

“461. Remission of indebtedness.”.

19 **SEC. 5. COAST GUARD FAMILY SUPPORT AND CHILD CARE.**

20 (a) SECTION REDESIGNATIONS.—

21 (1) REIMBURSEMENT FOR ADOPTION EX-
22 PENSES.—Chapter 13 of part I is amended by redес-
23 ignating section 514 as section 541.

1 (2) CHILD DEVELOPMENT SERVICES.—Chapter
 2 13 of part I is amended by redesignating section
 3 515 as section 552.

4 (b) GENERAL PROVISIONS.—Part I is amended by in-
 5 serting before section 541, as redesignated, the following:

6 **“CHAPTER 14—COAST GUARD FAMILY**
 7 **SUPPORT AND CHILD CARE AUTHORITIES**

8 **“Subchapter A—General Provisions**

9 **“§ 531. Work-life policies and programs**

10 “The Commandant is authorized—

11 “(1) to establish a program for the purpose of
 12 developing and promulgating policies that promote
 13 or support the well-being of Coast Guard active
 14 duty, reserve, and civilian personnel, and their fami-
 15 lies;

16 “(2) to implement and oversee the policies
 17 under paragraph (1) as the Commandant considers
 18 necessary; and

19 “(3) to perform such other duties as the Com-
 20 mandant considers necessary to promote or support
 21 the well-being of Coast Guard active duty, reserve,
 22 and civilian personnel, and their families.

23 **“§ 532. Surveys of Coast Guard families**

24 “(a) AUTHORITY.—Notwithstanding any other provi-
 25 sion of law, the Commandant, in order to determine the

1 effectiveness of Federal programs that promote or support
2 the well-being of Coast Guard active duty, reserve, and
3 civilian personnel, and their families, may survey—

4 “(1) any Coast Guard active duty, reserve, or
5 civilian personnel;

6 “(2) any retired Coast Guard member or civil-
7 ian personnel;

8 “(3) the immediate family of any member or
9 personnel described under paragraph (1) or para-
10 graph (2); and

11 “(4) any survivor of a deceased member.

12 “(b) VOLUNTARY PARTICIPATION.—Participation in
13 any survey conducted under this section shall be vol-
14 untary.

15 “(c) FEDERAL RECORDKEEPING.—With respect to a
16 survey authorized under subsection (a) that includes a
17 person referred to in that subsection who is not an em-
18 ployee of the United States or is not otherwise considered
19 an employee of the United States for the purposes of sec-
20 tion 3502(3)(A)(i) of title 44, the person shall be consid-
21 ered an employee of the United States for the purposes
22 of that section.

1 “SUBCHAPTER B—COAST GUARD FAMILY
2 SUPPORT”.

3 (c) COAST GUARD FAMILY SUPPORT.—Part I is
4 amended by inserting after section 541, as redesignated,
5 the following:

6 “§ 542. Education and training opportunities for
7 Coast Guard spouses

8 “(a) TUITION ASSISTANCE; EDUCATION AND TRAIN-
9 ING.—The Commandant may provide, subject to the avail-
10 ability of appropriations, tuition assistance to an eligible
11 spouse of a member of the Coast Guard in achieving—

12 “(1) the education and training required for a
13 degree or credential, that expands employment and
14 portable career opportunities for the spouse, at an
15 accredited college, university, or technical school in
16 the United States; or

17 “(2) the education prerequisites and profes-
18 sional licensure or credentialing required by a gov-
19 ernment or government-sanctioned licensing body for
20 an occupation that expands employment and port-
21 able career opportunities for the spouse.

22 “(b) DEFINITIONS.—For the purposes of this sec-
23 tion—

24 “(1) ELIGIBLE SPOUSE.—

1 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘eligible
 2 spouse’ means the spouse of a member of the
 3 Coast Guard who is serving on active duty, in-
 4 cluding a spouse who receives transitional sup-
 5 port in the case of such a member who is dis-
 6 charged due to domestic violence.

7 “(B) EXCLUSIONS.—The term ‘eligible
 8 spouse’ does not include—

9 “(i) a person who is married to, but
 10 legally separated from, a member of the
 11 Coast Guard under court order or statute
 12 of any State or territorial possession of the
 13 United States; or

14 “(ii) a person who is eligible for tui-
 15 tion assistance as a member of the armed
 16 forces.

17 “(2) PORTABLE CAREER OPPORTUNITIES.—The
 18 term ‘portable career opportunities’ includes an oc-
 19 cupation requiring education, training, or both, that
 20 results in a credential that is recognized by an in-
 21 dustry, profession, or specific type of business.

22 **“§ 543. Youth sponsorship initiatives**

23 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Commandant is authorized
 24 to establish, within any Coast Guard unit, an initiative
 25 to help integrate into new communities the dependent chil-

1 dren of members of the Coast Guard when the members
2 receive permanent change of station orders.

3 “(b) DESCRIPTION OF INITIATIVE.—A youth spon-
4 sorship initiative under this section shall—

5 “(1) apply to a dependent child who resides in
6 the new community due to a permanent change of
7 station order;

8 “(2) provide for the involvement of a dependent
9 child of a member of the Coast Guard in the de-
10 pendent child’s new Coast Guard community; and

11 “(3) primarily focus on children in their preteen
12 and teenage years.”.

13 (d) COAST GUARD CHILD CARE.—

14 (1) IN GENERAL; DEFINITIONS.—Part I is
15 amended by inserting before section 552, as redesign-
16 nated, the following:

17 “SUBCHAPTER C—COAST GUARD CHILD CARE

18 “§ 551. Definitions

19 “In this subchapter:

20 “(1) CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT.—The term
21 ‘child abuse and neglect’ has the meaning given the
22 term in section 3 of the Child Abuse Prevention and
23 Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5101 note).

24 “(2) CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER EM-
25 PLOYEE.—The term ‘child development center em-

1 ployee’ means a civilian employee of the Coast
2 Guard who is employed to work in a Coast Guard
3 child development center regardless of whether the
4 employee is paid from appropriated or non-
5 appropriated funds.

6 “(3) COAST GUARD CHILD DEVELOPMENT CEN-
7 TER.—

8 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘Coast
9 Guard child development center’ means a facil-
10 ity on Coast Guard property or on property
11 under the jurisdiction of the commander of a
12 Coast Guard unit, at which child care services
13 are provided for members of the Coast Guard.

14 “(B) EXCLUSIONS.—The term ‘Coast
15 Guard child development center’ does not in-
16 clude a child care services facility for which
17 space is allotted under section 590 of title 40.

18 “(4) COMPETITIVE SERVICE POSITION.—The
19 term ‘competitive service position’ means a position
20 in the competitive service (as defined in section
21 2102(a)(1) of title 5).

22 “(5) FAMILY HOME DAYCARE.—The term ‘fam-
23 ily home daycare’ means home-based child care serv-
24 ices provided for a member of the Coast Guard by
25 an individual who—

1 “(A) is certified by the Commandant as
2 qualified to provide home-based child care serv-
3 ices; and

4 “(B) provides home-based child care serv-
5 ices on a regular basis in exchange for mone-
6 tary compensation.”.

7 (2) CHILD DEVELOPMENT SERVICES.—

8 (A) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense
9 of the Congress that the amount of appro-
10 priated funds available during a fiscal year for
11 operating expenses for Coast Guard child devel-
12 opment services should be, at a minimum, not
13 less than the amount of child development cen-
14 ter fee receipts that are estimated to be col-
15 lected by the Coast Guard during that fiscal
16 year. In this subparagraph, the term “child de-
17 velopment center fee receipts” means those
18 nonappropriated funds derived from fees paid
19 by members of the Coast Guard for child care
20 services provided at Coast Guard child develop-
21 ment centers.

22 (B) HEADINGS.—Section 552, as redesign-
23 nated, is amended—

24 (i) in subsection (a), by inserting “IN
25 GENERAL.—” before “The Commandant”;

1 (ii) in subsection (b)(1), by inserting

2 “FUNDING FOR CHILD DEVELOPMENT
3 SERVICES.—” before “The Commandant”;

4 (iii) in subsection (b)(2)(A), by insert-
5 ing “PARENT FEES.—” before “The Com-
6 mandant”;

7 (iv) in subsection (b)(2)(B), by insert-
8 ing “WAIVER AUTHORITY.—” before “Fees
9 to be charged”; and

10 (v) in subsection (b)(2)(C), by insert-
11 ing “FEE COLLECTION AND USE.—” be-
12 fore “The Commandant”.

13 (3) CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER STANDARDS
14 AND INSPECTIONS.—Part I is amended—

15 (A) in section 552, as redesignated—

16 (i) by striking subsections (c) and (e);
17 and

18 (ii) by redesignating subsection (d) as
19 subsection (c); and

20 (B) by adding after section 552, as redес-
21 ignated, the following:

22 **“§ 553. Child development center standards and in-
23 spections**

24 **“(a) EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT STAND-
25 ARDS.—The Commandant shall require that each child de-**

1 velopment center meets applicable health and safety
2 standards.

3 “(b) SAFETY STANDARDS.—The Commandant shall
4 require that each child development center under this sub-
5 chapter meets such safety standards as the Commandant
6 considers appropriate to ensure the health, safety, and
7 welfare of the children and employees at the child develop-
8 ment center.

9 “(c) INSPECTIONS.—The Commandant shall provide
10 for regular and unannounced inspections of each child de-
11 velopment center under this subchapter to ensure compli-
12 ance with this section.

13 “(d) NATIONAL REPORTING.—

14 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Commandant shall
15 maintain and publicize a means by which an indi-
16 vidual can report—

17 “(A) any suspected violation of—

18 “(i) standards of operation;

19 “(ii) health or safety standards; or

20 “(iii) other law or standards;

21 “(B) any suspected child abuse or neglect;

22 or

23 “(C) any other deficiency at a Coast Guard
24 child development center or in family home
25 daycare.

1 “(2) ANONYMOUS REPORTING.—The Com-
2 mandant shall ensure that a report under paragraph
3 (1) can be made anonymously if so desired by the
4 individual making the report.

5 “(3) PROCEDURES.—The Commandant shall
6 establish procedures for investigating a report under
7 paragraph (1).”.

8 (4) ADDITIONAL CHILD CARE PROVISIONS.—
9 Part I is amended by adding after section 553 the
10 following:

11 **“§ 554. Child development center employees**

12 “(a) TRAINING.—

13 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Commandant shall
14 prescribe a training program for Coast Guard child
15 development center employees. Satisfactory comple-
16 tion of the training program shall be a condition of
17 employment for an employee of a Coast Guard child
18 development center. The Commandant shall require
19 each employee complete the training program not
20 later than 6 months after the date that the employee
21 is employed as a Coast Guard child development
22 center employee.

23 “(2) MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS.—The training
24 program shall include, at a minimum, instruction in
25 the following:

1 “(A) Early childhood development.

2 “(B) Activities and disciplinary techniques
3 appropriate to children of different ages.

4 “(C) Child abuse and neglect prevention
5 and detection.

6 “(D) Cardiopulmonary resuscitation and
7 other emergency medical procedures.

8 “(3) USE OF DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE PRO-
9 GRAMS.—The Commandant may use Department of
10 Defense training programs on a reimbursable or
11 nonreimbursable basis, for purposes of complying
12 with the requirements of this subsection.

13 “(b) TRAINING AND CURRICULUM SPECIALISTS.—

14 “(1) SPECIALIST REQUIRED.—The Com-
15 mandant shall require that at least 1 employee at
16 each Coast Guard child development center be a spe-
17 cialist in training and curriculum development with
18 appropriate credentials and experience.

19 “(2) DUTIES.—The duties of the employee
20 under paragraph (1) shall include the following:

21 “(A) Special teaching activities at the
22 Coast Guard child development center.

23 “(B) Daily oversight and instruction of
24 other child care employees at the Coast Guard
25 child development center.

1 “(C) Daily assistance in the preparation of
2 lesson plans.

3 “(D) Assisting with child abuse and ne-
4 glect prevention and detection at the Coast
5 Guard child development center.

6 “(E) Advising the director of the Coast
7 Guard child development center on the perform-
8 ance of the other child care employees.

9 “(3) COMPETITIVE SERVICE.—Each employee
10 under paragraph (1) shall be an employee in a com-
11 petitive service position.

12 **“§ 555. Parent partnerships with child development**
13 **centers**

14 “(a) PARENT BOARDS.—

15 “(1) FORMATION.—The Commandant shall re-
16 quire that there be formed at each Coast Guard
17 child development center a board of parents, to be
18 composed of parents of children attending the cen-
19 ter.

20 “(2) FUNCTIONS.—Each parent board shall—

21 “(A) meet periodically with the staff and
22 the commander of the unit served by the center
23 at which the parent board is formed, for the
24 purpose of discussing problems and concerns;
25 and

1 “(B) be responsible, together with the staff
2 of that center, for coordinating the parent par-
3 ticipation initiative required under subsection
4 (b).

5 “(3) FACA.—A board of parents under this
6 subsection shall not be subject to the Federal Advi-
7 sory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.).

8 “(b) PARENT PARTICIPATION INITIATIVE.—

9 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Commandant is au-
10 thorized to establish a parent participation initiative
11 at each Coast Guard child development center to en-
12 courage and facilitate parent participation in edu-
13 cational and related activities at the center.

14 “(2) FEE REDUCTION AUTHORITY.—The Com-
15 mandant, in the case of a parent who participates in
16 an initiative adopted under paragraph (1), may es-
17 tablish fees at a lower rate than charged under sec-
18 tion 552(b)(2)(A) for that parent.”.

19 (e) COMMANDANT; GENERAL POWERS.—Section
20 93(a)(7) is amended by inserting “, and to eligible spouses
21 under section 542,” after “Coast Guard”.

22 (f) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

23 (1) Section 652 of the National Defense Au-
24 thorization Act for Fiscal Year 1993 (14 U.S.C. 514

1 note) is amended by striking “section 514” each
 2 place it appears and inserting “section 541”.

3 (2) The table of contents for part I of title 14
 4 is amended—

5 (A) by striking the item relating to section
 6 514;

7 (B) by striking the item relating to section
 8 515; and

9 (C) by adding after the item relating to
 10 section 518 the following:

“CHAPTER 14. COAST GUARD FAMILY SUPPORT AND CHILD CARE
 AUTHORITIES

“SUBCHAPTER A. GENERAL PROVISIONS

“531. Work-life policies and programs.

“532. Surveys of Coast Guard families

“SUBCHAPTER B. COAST GUARD FAMILY SUPPORT

“541. Reimbursement for adoption expenses.

“542. Education and training opportunities for Coast Guard spouses.

“543. Youth sponsorship initiatives.

“SUBCHAPTER C. COAST GUARD CHILD CARE

“551. Definitions.

“552. Child development services.

“553. Child development center standards and inspections.

“554. Child development center employees.

“555. Parent partnerships with child development centers.”.

11 **SEC. 6. TUITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM COVERAGE OF**
 12 **TEXTBOOKS AND OTHER EDUCATIONAL MA-**
 13 **TERIALS.**

14 Section 93(a)(7), as amended by section 5(e) of this
 15 Act, is further amended by inserting “and those textbooks,
 16 manuals, and other materials required as a part of such

1 training or courses of instruction” after “correspondence
2 courses,”.

3 **SEC. 7. OFFICER EVALUATION REPORTS.**

4 (a) ASSESSMENT REQUIRED.—Not later than 180
5 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Com-
6 mandant of the Coast Guard shall provide the Committee
7 on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate
8 and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure
9 of the House of Representatives a written assessment of
10 the Coast Guard’s current officer evaluation reporting sys-
11 tem.

12 (b) CONTENTS OF ASSESSMENT.—The assessment
13 required under subsection (a) shall include, at a minimum,
14 an analysis of—

15 (1) the extent to which the Coast Guard’s cur-
16 rent officer evaluation reports differ in length, form,
17 and content from the officer fitness reports used by
18 the Navy and other branches of the armed forces;

19 (2) the extent to which such differences are the
20 result of inherent differences in the Coast Guard
21 and the Navy, and in the Coast Guard and other
22 branches of the armed forces;

23 (3) the feasibility of better aligning and con-
24 forming the Coast Guard’s officer evaluation reports

1 with the officer fitness reports of the Navy and
 2 other branches of the armed forces; and

3 (4) the costs and benefits of such improved
 4 alignment and conformity, including with respect to
 5 Coast Guard administrative efficiency and the Coast
 6 Guard's statutory mission of defense readiness, in-
 7 cluding when operating as a service in the Navy.

8 **SEC. 8. HOUSING CHOICES FOR COAST GUARD FAMILIES**
 9 **WITH SPECIAL MEDICAL NEEDS.**

10 (a) SECTION REDESIGNATIONS.—Chapter 18 of part
 11 I is amended—

12 (1) by redesignating section 685 as section 682;

13 (2) by redesignating section 687 as section 683;

14 and

15 (3) by redesignating section 688 as section 684.

16 (b) HOUSING CHOICES FOR COAST GUARD FAMILIES
 17 WITH SPECIAL MEDICAL NEEDS.—Chapter 18 of part I
 18 is amended by adding at the end the following:

19 **“SEC. 685. HOUSING CHOICES FOR COAST GUARD FAMILIES**
 20 **WITH SPECIAL MEDICAL NEEDS.**

21 “The remoteness or driving distance from a hospital
 22 of an area shall not be the basis, in policy, for preventing
 23 a member of the Coast Guard with a dependent with spe-
 24 cial medical needs, such as diabetes, asthma, or moderate
 25 disabilities, from residing in a particular area, unless the

1 Commandant has determined that such needs cannot be
 2 sufficiently met with appropriate services while residing in
 3 that area.”.

4 (c) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

5 (1) Section 682(b), as redesignated, is amended
 6 by striking “section 687” and inserting “section
 7 683”.

8 (2) The table of contents for part I of title 14
 9 is amended—

10 (A) by striking the item relating to section
 11 685;

12 (B) by striking the item relating to section
 13 687;

14 (C) by striking the item relating to section
 15 688; and

16 (D) by adding after the item relating to
 17 section 681 the following:

“682. Conveyance of real property.

“683. Coast Guard Housing Fund.

“684. Reports.

“685. Housing choices for Coast Guard families with special medical needs.”.

18 **SEC. 9. AUTHORITY TO CONSTRUCT COAST GUARD CHILD**
 19 **DEVELOPMENT CENTER FACILITIES.**

20 (a) GENERAL AUTHORITY.—Section 681 is amend-
 21 ed—

22 (1) in subsection (a)—

1 (A) by striking “housing or military unac-
2 companied housing,” and inserting “housing,
3 military unaccompanied housing, or Coast
4 Guard child development center facilities,”; and

5 (B) by adding at the end the following:

6 “(3) Coast Guard child development center fa-
7 cilities.”; and

8 (2) in subsection (b), by striking “housing or
9 military unaccompanied housing” and inserting
10 “housing, military unaccompanied housing, or Coast
11 Guard child development center facilities”.

12 (b) CONVEYANCE OF REAL PROPERTY.—Section
13 682, as redesignated, is amended—

14 (1) in subsection (a), by striking “housing and
15 military unaccompanied housing” and inserting
16 “housing, military unaccompanied housing, and
17 Coast Guard child development center facilities”;

18 (2) in subsection (b)(1), by striking “housing
19 and military unaccompanied housing” and inserting
20 “housing, military unaccompanied housing, and
21 Coast Guard child development center facilities”;
22 and

23 (3) in subsection (b)(2), by striking “housing or
24 military unaccompanied housing” and inserting

1 “housing, military unaccompanied housing, or Coast
2 Guard child development center facilities”.

3 (c) COAST GUARD HOUSING FUND.—Section 683, as
4 redesignated, is amended—

5 (1) in subsection (b)(2), by striking “housing or
6 military unaccompanied housing” and inserting
7 “housing, military unaccompanied housing, or Coast
8 Guard child development center facilities”;

9 (2) in subsection (b)(3), by striking “housing
10 and military unaccompanied housing” and inserting
11 “housing, military unaccompanied housing, and
12 Coast Guard child development center facilities”;
13 and

14 (3) in subsection (c), by striking “housing and
15 military unaccompanied housing” and inserting
16 “housing, military unaccompanied housing, and
17 Coast Guard child development center facilities”.

18 (d) DEFINITIONS.—Section 680 is amended—

19 (1) by redesignating paragraphs (1) through
20 (4) as paragraphs (2) through (6), respectively;

21 (2) by inserting before paragraph (2), as reded-
22 icated, the following:

23 “(1) The term ‘Coast Guard child development
24 center facilities’ means buildings and ancillary sup-
25 porting facilities constructed and maintained by the

1 Coast Guard to provide child care services for mem-
 2 bers of the Coast Guard.”;

3 (3) in paragraph (2), as redesignated, by strik-
 4 ing “housing and military unaccompanied housing”
 5 and inserting “housing, military unaccompanied
 6 housing, and Coast Guard child development center
 7 facilities”; and

8 (4) in paragraph (3), as redesignated, by strik-
 9 ing “housing and military unaccompanied housing”
 10 and inserting “housing, military unaccompanied
 11 housing, and Coast Guard child development center
 12 facilities”.

13 **SEC. 10. POST-SERVICE MARITIME EMPLOYMENT OPPOR-**
 14 **TUNITIES.**

15 (a) **MERCHANT MARINE POST-SERVICE CAREER OP-**
 16 **PORTUNITIES.**—Not later than 180 days after the date of
 17 enactment of this Act, the Commandant shall take steps
 18 to promote better awareness, on an ongoing basis, among
 19 Coast Guard personnel regarding post-service use of Coast
 20 Guard training, education, and practical experience as
 21 qualifying experience in satisfaction of requirements for
 22 merchant mariner credentials under section 11.213 of title
 23 46, Code of Federal Regulations.

1 (b) TIMELY PROVISION OF SEA SERVICE LET-
 2 TERS.—Chapter 11 of title 14, United States Code, is
 3 amended by inserting after section 427 the following:

4 **“§ 428. Timely provision of sea service letters**

5 “A member of the Coast Guard who retires or sepa-
 6 rates from the Service and who is eligible to receive a sea
 7 service letter shall be provided such sea service letter, at
 8 the member’s request, on or before the member’s retire-
 9 ment or separation date.”.

10 (c) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—
 11 The table of contents for chapter 11 of title 14 is amended
 12 by inserting after the item relating to section 427 the fol-
 13 lowing:

“428. Timely provision of sea service letters.”.

14 **SEC. 11. RETIRED SERVICE MEMBERS AND FAMILY MEM-**
 15 **BERS SERVING ON ADVISORY COMMITTEES.**

16 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 17 is amended by adding
 17 at the end the following:

18 **“§ 679. Retired service members and family members**
 19 **serving on advisory committees**

20 “A committee within the Coast Guard that advises
 21 or assists the Coast Guard in the performance of any func-
 22 tion that affects members of military families and includes
 23 in its membership a retired Coast Guard member or a
 24 member of a military family shall not be considered an
 25 advisory committee under the Federal Advisory Com-

1 mittee Act (5 U.S.C. App.) solely because of such member-
2 ship.”.

3 (b) TECHNICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents
4 for chapter 17 is amended by inserting after the item re-
5 lating to section 678 the following:

“679. Retired service members and family members serving on advisory commit-
tees.”.

