

on the first day of the first month that begins more than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act [Dec. 5, 1991].”

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1981 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 97-86 effective Sept. 15, 1981, see section 405(f) of Pub. L. 97-86, set out as a note under section 101 of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE

Section effective Sept. 15, 1981, but the authority to prescribe regulations under this chapter effective on Dec. 12, 1980, see section 701 of Pub. L. 96-513, set out as an Effective Date of 1980 Amendment note under section 101 of this title.

TRANSITION PROVISIONS UNDER DEFENSE OFFICER PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT ACT

For provisions relating to temporary appointments of officers serving in grades above major general or rear admiral, see section 623 of Pub. L. 96-513, set out as a note under section 611 of this title.

§ 602. Flexibility in determining terms of appointment for certain senior officer positions

The Secretary of Defense may extend or reduce the duration of an appointment made under section 152, 154, 7033, 8033, 8043, 9033, or 9082 of this title by up to six months if the Secretary determines that such an extension or reduction is necessary either in the interests of national defense, or to ensure an appropriate staggering of terms of senior military leadership.

(Added Pub. L. 118-31, div. A, title V, § 504(a), Dec. 22, 2023, 137 Stat. 241.)

Editorial Notes

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 602, Pub. L. 96-513, title I, § 105, Dec. 12, 1980, 94 Stat. 2849, related to temporary promotions of warrant officers, prior to repeal by Pub. L. 102-190, div. A, title XI, § 1113(a), Dec. 5, 1991, 105 Stat. 1502.

§ 603. Appointments in time of war or national emergency

(a) In time of war, or of national emergency declared by the Congress or the President after November 30, 1980, the President may appoint any qualified person (whether or not already a member of the armed forces) to any officer grade in the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, or Space Force, except that appointments under this section may not be made in grades above major general or rear admiral. Appointments under this section shall be made by the President alone, except that an appointment in the grade warrant officer, W-1, shall be made by warrant by the Secretary concerned.

(b) Any appointment under this section is a temporary appointment and may be vacated by the President at any time.

(c)(1) Any person receiving an original appointment under this section is entitled to service credit as authorized under section 533 of this title.

(2) An appointment under this section of a person who is not on active duty becomes effective when that person begins active duty under that appointment.

(d) An appointment under this section does not change the permanent status of a member of

the armed forces so appointed. A member who is appointed under this section shall not incur any reduction in the pay and allowances to which the member was entitled, by virtue of his permanent status, at the time of his appointment under this section.

(e)(1) An officer who receives an appointment to a higher grade under this section is considered to have accepted such appointment on the date of the order announcing the appointment unless he expressly declines the appointment.

(2) An officer who has served continuously since he subscribed to the oath of office prescribed in section 3331 of title 5 is not required to take a new oath upon appointment to a higher grade under this section.

(f) Unless sooner terminated, an appointment under this section terminates on the earliest of the following:

(1) The second anniversary of the appointment.

(2) The end of the six-month period beginning on the last day of the war or national emergency during which the appointment was made.

(3) The date the person appointed is released from active duty.

(Added Pub. L. 96-513, title I, § 105, Dec. 12, 1980, 94 Stat. 2850; amended Pub. L. 101-189, div. A, title VI, § 653(a)(2), Nov. 29, 1989, 103 Stat. 1462; Pub. L. 102-190, div. A, title XI, § 1113(b), (d)(1)(A), Dec. 5, 1991, 105 Stat. 1502; Pub. L. 116-283, div. A, title IX, § 924(b)(3)(D), Jan. 1, 2021, 134 Stat. 3821.)

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

2021—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 116-283 substituted “Marine Corps, or Space Force” for “or Marine Corps”.

1991—Pub. L. 102-190, § 1113(d)(1)(A), substituted “Appointments in time of war or national emergency” for “Commissioned officer grades: time of war or national emergency” in section catchline.

Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 102-190, § 1113(b), struck out “commissioned” before “officer grade in the Army” and “in warrant officer grades or” before “in grades above major general” and inserted before period at end “, except that an appointment in the grade warrant officer, W-1, shall be made by warrant by the Secretary concerned”.

1989—Subsec. (f). Pub. L. 101-189 substituted “terminates on the earliest of the following:” for “terminates—” in introductory provisions, and made numerous amendments to style and punctuation. Prior to amendment, subsec. (f) read as follows: “Unless sooner terminated, an appointment under this section terminates—

“(1) on the second anniversary of the appointment;

“(2) at the end of the six-month period beginning on the last day of the war or national emergency during which the appointment was made; or

“(3) on the date the person appointed is released from active duty; whichever is earliest.”

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1991 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 102-190 effective Feb. 1, 1992, see section 532 of Pub. L. 102-190, set out as a note under section 521 of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE

Section effective Sept. 15, 1981, but the authority to prescribe regulations under this section effective on

Dec. 12, 1980, see section 701 of Pub. L. 96-513, set out as an Effective Date of 1980 Amendment note under section 101 of this title.

Executive Documents

DELEGATION OF FUNCTIONS

Functions of President under subsecs. (a) and (b) to make or vacate certain temporary commissioned appointments delegated to Secretary of Defense to perform during a time of war or national emergency, without approval, ratification, or other action by President, and with authority for Secretary to redelegate, provided that, during a national emergency declared by President, exercise of any such authority be specifically directed by President in accordance with section 1631 of Title 50, War and National Defense, and that Secretary ensure any authority so delegated be accounted for as required by section 1641 of Title 50, see Ex. Ord. No. 12396, §§2, 3, Dec. 9, 1982, 47 F.R. 55897, 55898, set out as a note under section 301 of Title 3, The President.

EX. ORD. NO. 13321. APPOINTMENTS DURING NATIONAL EMERGENCY

Ex. Ord. No. 13321, Dec. 17, 2003, 68 F.R. 74465, provided:

By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, including the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1601 *et seq.*), and section 301 of title 3, United States Code, and in order to further respond to the national emergency I declared in Proclamation 7463 of September 14, 2001 [50 U.S.C. 1621 note], I hereby order as follows:

SECTION 1. Emergency Appointments Authority. The emergency appointments authority at section 603 of title 10, United States Code, is invoked and made available to the Secretary of Defense in accordance with the terms of that statute and of Executive Order 12396 of December 9, 1982 [3 U.S.C. 301 note].

SEC. 2. Judicial Review. This order is not intended to, and does not, create any right or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity by a party against the United States, its departments, agencies, entities, officers, employees or agents, or any person.

SEC. 3. Administration. This order shall be transmitted to the Congress and published in the Federal Register.

GEORGE W. BUSH.

§ 604. Senior joint officer positions: recommendations to the Secretary of Defense

(a) **JOINT 4-STAR OFFICER POSITIONS.**—(1) Whenever a vacancy occurs, or is anticipated to occur, in a position specified in subsection (b)—

(A) the Secretary of Defense shall require the Secretary of the Army to submit the name of at least one Army officer, the Secretary of the Navy to submit the name of at least one Navy officer and the name of at least one Marine Corps officer, and the Secretary of the Air Force to submit the name of at least one Air Force officer and the name of at least one Space Force officer for consideration by the Secretary for recommendation to the President for appointment to that position; and

(B) the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff may submit to the Secretary of Defense the name of one or more officers (in addition to the officers whose names are submitted pursuant to subparagraph (A)) for consideration by the Secretary for recommendation to the President for appointment to that position.

(2) Whenever the Secretaries of the military departments are required to submit the names

of officers under paragraph (1)(A), the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff shall submit to the Secretary of Defense the Chairman's evaluation of the performance of each officer whose name is submitted under that paragraph (and of any officer whose name the Chairman submits to the Secretary under paragraph (1)(B) for consideration for the same vacancy). The Chairman's evaluation shall primarily consider the performance of the officer as a member of the Joint Staff and in other joint duty assignments, but may include consideration of other aspects of the officer's performance as the Chairman considers appropriate.

(b) **COVERED POSITIONS.**—Subsection (a) applies to the following positions:

- (1) Commander of a combatant command.
- (2) Commander, United States Forces, Korea.

(Added Pub. L. 103-337, div. A, title IV, § 405(c)(1), Oct. 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 2745; amended Pub. L. 104-201, div. A, title IV, § 404(a), Sept. 23, 1996, 110 Stat. 2506; Pub. L. 106-65, div. A, title V, § 509(a), Oct. 5, 1999, 113 Stat. 592; Pub. L. 107-314, div. A, title IV, § 405(a), Dec. 2, 2002, 116 Stat. 2526; Pub. L. 108-136, div. A, title V, § 504(a), Nov. 24, 2003, 117 Stat. 1456; Pub. L. 114-328, div. A, title V, § 502(e), Dec. 23, 2016, 130 Stat. 2102; Pub. L. 116-283, div. A, title IX, § 924(b)(15), Jan. 1, 2021, 134 Stat. 3823.)

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

2021—Subsec. (a)(1)(A). Pub. L. 116-283 inserted “and the name of at least one Space Force officer” after “Air Force officer”.

2016—Subsec. (b)(3). Pub. L. 114-328 struck out par. (3) which read as follows: “Deputy commander, United States European Command, but only if the commander of that command is also the Supreme Allied Commander, Europe.”

2003—Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 108-136 struck out heading and text of subsec. (c). Text read as follows: “This section shall cease to be effective at the end of December 31, 2004.”

2002—Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 107-314 substituted “December 31, 2004” for “September 30, 2003”.

1999—Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 106-65 substituted “September 30, 2003” for “September 30, 2000”.

1996—Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 104-201 substituted “September 30, 2000” for “September 30, 1997”.

§ 605. Promotion to certain grades for officers with critical skills: colonel, lieutenant colonel, major, captain; captain, commander, lieutenant commander, lieutenant

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—An officer in the grade of first lieutenant, captain, major, or lieutenant colonel in the Army, Air Force, Marine Corps, or Space Force, or lieutenant (junior grade), lieutenant, lieutenant commander, or commander in the Navy, who is described in subsection (b) may be temporarily promoted to the grade of captain, major, lieutenant colonel, or colonel in the Army, Air Force, Marine Corps, or Space Force, or lieutenant, lieutenant commander, commander, or captain in the Navy, as applicable, under regulations prescribed by the Secretary of the military department concerned. Appointments under this section shall be made by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate.