

In subsection (h), the words “authorized and” and “for wear during such course of instruction” are omitted as surplusage. The word “naval” is omitted as covered by the word “military”. The words “Army, Navy, Air Force, or Marine Corps” are substituted for the words “military or naval authorities”. The words “that armed force” are substituted for the words “such military or naval authorities”.

In subsection (i), the words “Air Force school” are substituted for the words “Air Force advanced flying schools or Air Force service schools”. The words “in such manner” are omitted as surplusage.

Editorial Notes

CONSTITUTIONALITY

For information regarding the constitutionality of certain provisions of this section as enacted by act Aug. 10, 1956, see the Table of Laws Held Unconstitutional in Whole or in Part by the Supreme Court on the Constitution Annotated website, constitution.congress.gov.

AMENDMENTS

2023—Subsec. (i). Pub. L. 118-31, §1741(b)(2)(B), substituted “aviation or space badges of the Air Force or Space Force” for “aviation badges of the Air Force”.

Pub. L. 118-31, §1741(b)(2)(A), which directed amendment of subsec. (i) by substituting “an Air Force or Space Force school” for “an Air Force School”, was executed by making the substitution for “an Air Force school” to reflect the probable intent of Congress.

2021—Pub. L. 116-283 substituted “Marine Corps, or Space Force” for “or Marine Corps” wherever appearing.

1996—Subsec. (h). Pub. L. 104-201 inserted before period at end “if the wear of such uniform is specifically authorized under regulations prescribed by the Secretary of the military department concerned”.

1989—Subsec. (g). Pub. L. 101-189 substituted “Department of Veterans Affairs” for “Veterans’ Administration”.

1985—Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 99-145 struck out provisions relating to a retired officer of the Navy Nurse Corps.

Executive Documents

EX. ORD. NO. 10554. DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY TO PRESCRIBE REGULATIONS

Ex. Ord. No. 10554, Aug. 18, 1954, 19 F.R. 5295, as amended by Ex. Ord. No. 13286, §77, Feb. 28, 2003, 68 F.R. 10631, provided:

The authority vested in the President (1) by section 125 of the act of June 3, 1916, 39 Stat. 216, as amended by the first section of the act of July 6, 1953, 67 Stat. 140, and (2) by section 2 of the act of June 21, 1930, 46 Stat. 793, as amended by section 2 of said act of July 6, 1953, to prescribe regulations authorizing occasions upon which the uniform may be worn by persons who have served honorably in the armed forces of the United States in time of war is hereby delegated to the Secretary of Defense so far as it pertains to the uniforms of the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marine Corps, and to the Secretary of Homeland Security so far as it pertains to the uniform of the Coast Guard.

§ 773. When distinctive insignia required

(a) A person for whom one of the following uniforms is prescribed may wear it, if it includes distinctive insignia prescribed by the Secretary of the military department concerned to distinguish it from the uniform of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, or Space Force, as the case may be:

- (1) The uniform prescribed by the university, college, or school for an instructor or member of the organized cadet corps of—

(A) a State university or college, or a public high school, having a regular course of military instruction; or

(B) an educational institution having a regular course of military instruction, and having a member of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, or Space Force as instructor in military science and tactics.

(2) The uniform prescribed by a military society composed of persons discharged honorably or under honorable conditions from the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, or Space Force to be worn by a member of that society when authorized by regulations prescribed by the President.

(b) A uniform prescribed under subsection (a) may not include insignia of grade the same as, or similar to, those prescribed for officers of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, or Space Force.

(c) Under such regulations as the Secretary of the military department concerned may prescribe, any person who is permitted to attend a course of instruction prescribed for members of a reserve officers’ training corps, and who is not a member of that corps, may, while attending that course of instruction, wear the uniform of that corps.

(Aug. 10, 1956, ch. 1041, 70A Stat. 35; Pub. L. 85-355, Mar. 28, 1958, 72 Stat. 66; Pub. L. 116-283, div. A, title IX, §924(b)(3)(P), Jan. 1, 2021, 134 Stat. 3821.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
773(a)	10:1393 (words between 4th and 7th semicolons of 1st proviso, and 2d proviso, of 1st par.).	June 3, 1916, ch. 134, §125 (words between 4th and 7th semicolons of 1st proviso, and 2d and last provisos, of 1st par.). 39 Stat. 216; June 4, 1920, ch. 228, §8, 41 Stat. 836; Sept. 15, 1951, ch. 402, 65 Stat. 323; July 6, 1953, ch. 180, §1, 67 Stat. 140.
773(b)	10:1393 (last proviso of 1st par.).	

In subsection (a), the word “mark” is omitted as surplusage.

In subsection (a)(2), the words “persons discharged honorably or under honorable conditions from” are substituted for the words “entirely of honorably discharged officers or enlisted men, or both, of”. The words “Regular or Volunteer” are omitted as surplusage. The words “when authorized by regulations prescribed by” are substituted for the words “upon occasions authorized by regulations of”.

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

2021—Subsecs. (a), (b). Pub. L. 116-283 substituted “Marine Corps, or Space Force” for “or Marine Corps” in subsec. (a) wherever appearing and in subsec. (b).

1958—Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 85-355 added subsec. (c).

§ 774. Religious apparel: wearing while in uniform

(a) GENERAL RULE.—Except as provided under subsection (b), a member of the armed forces may wear an item of religious apparel while wearing the uniform of the member’s armed force.