

**CHAPTER 33—ORIGINAL APPOINTMENTS OF  
REGULAR OFFICERS IN GRADES ABOVE  
WARRANT OFFICER GRADES**

- Sec.  
531. Original appointments of commissioned officers.  
532. Qualifications for original appointment as a commissioned officer.  
533. Service credit upon original appointment as a commissioned officer.  
541. Graduates of the United States Military, Naval, and Air Force Academies.  
[555 to 565. Repealed.]

AMENDMENTS

1991—Pub. L. 102-190, div. A, title XI, §1112(b)(1), Dec. 5, 1991, 105 Stat. 1501, substituted “ORIGINAL APPOINTMENTS OF REGULAR OFFICERS IN GRADES ABOVE WARRANT OFFICER GRADES” for “APPOINTMENTS IN REGULAR COMPONENTS” as chapter heading, struck out analysis of subchapters listing subchapter I “Original Appointments of Regular Officers in Grades above Warrant Officer Grades” and subchapter II “Appointments of Regular Warrant Officers”, and struck out subchapter I heading.

1980—Pub. L. 96-513, title I, §104(a), Dec. 12, 1980, 94 Stat. 2845, inserted an analysis of subchapters immediately following chapter heading, added subchapter I heading, and, in analysis of sections following subchapter I heading, added items 531, 532, and 533 preceding item 541, re-enacted item 541 without change, and struck out, following item 541, items 555 to 565. The items 555 to 565 formerly set out in the analysis of sections immediately following chapter heading were transferred to a position following a new heading for subchapter II preceding section 555.

**§ 531. Original appointments of commissioned officers**

(a)(1) Original appointments in the grades of second lieutenant, first lieutenant, and captain in the Regular Army, Regular Air Force, and Regular Marine Corps and in the grades of ensign, lieutenant (junior grade), and lieutenant in the Regular Navy shall be made by the President alone.

(2) Original appointments in the grades of major, lieutenant colonel, and colonel in the Regular Army, Regular Air Force, and Regular Marine Corps and in the grades of lieutenant commander, commander, and captain in the Regular Navy shall be made by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate.

(b) The grade of a person receiving an appointment under this section who at the time of appointment (1) is credited with service under section 533 of this title, and (2) is not a commissioned officer of a reserve component shall be determined under regulations prescribed by the Secretary of Defense based upon the amount of service credited. The grade of a person receiving an appointment under this section who at the time of the appointment is a commissioned officer of a reserve component is determined under section 533(f) of this title.

(c) Subject to the authority, direction, and control of the President, an original appointment as a commissioned officer in the Regular Army, Regular Air Force, Regular Navy, or Regular Marine Corps may be made by the Secretary concerned in the case of a reserve commissioned officer upon the transfer of such officer from the reserve active-status list of a re-

serve component of the armed forces to the active-duty list of an armed force, notwithstanding the requirements of subsection (a).

(Added Pub. L. 96-513, title I, §104(a), Dec. 12, 1980, 94 Stat. 2845; amended Pub. L. 97-22, §3(a), July 10, 1981, 95 Stat. 124; Pub. L. 108-375, div. A, title V, §501(a)(4), (c)(5), Oct. 28, 2004, 118 Stat. 1873, 1874.)

AMENDMENTS

2004—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 108-375, §501(a)(4), amended subsec. (a) generally. Prior to amendment, subsec. (a) read as follows: “Original appointments in the grades of second lieutenant through colonel in the Regular Army, Regular Air Force, and Regular Marine Corps and in the grades of ensign through captain in the Regular Navy shall be made by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate.”

Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 108-375, §501(c)(5), added subsec. (c).

1981—Pub. L. 97-22 designated existing provisions as subsec. (a) and added subsec. (b).

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2004 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 108-375, div. A, title V, §501(g), Oct. 28, 2004, 118 Stat. 1875, provided that:

“(1) Except as provided in paragraph (2), the amendments made by this section [enacting section 647 of this title, amending this section and sections 532, 619, 641, 1174, 2114, 12201, 12203, and 12731 of this title, and repealing section 522 of this title] shall take effect on the first day of the first month beginning more than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act [Oct. 28, 2004].

“(2) The amendment made by subsection (a)(1) [amending section 532 of this title] shall take effect on May 1, 2005.”

EFFECTIVE DATE

Chapter 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 to prevent extinction or premature termination of rights, duties, penalties, or proceedings that existed or were begun prior to the effective date of Pub. L. 96-513 and otherwise to allow for an orderly transition to the system of officer personnel management put in place under Pub. L. 96-513, see section 601 et seq. of Pub. L. 96-513, set out as a note under section 611 of this title.

PROGRAM TO INCREASE USE OF CERTAIN NURSES BY  
MILITARY DEPARTMENTS

Pub. L. 101-189, div. A, title VII, §708, Nov. 29, 1989, 103 Stat. 1475, provided that:

“(a) PROGRAM REQUIRED.—(1) Not later than September 30, 1991, the Secretary of each military department shall implement a program to appoint persons who have an associate degree or diploma in nursing (but have not received a baccalaureate degree in nursing) as officers and to assign such officers to duty as nurses.

“(2) An officer appointed pursuant to the program required by subsection (a) shall be appointed in a warrant officer grade or in a commissioned grade not higher than O-3. Such officer may not be promoted above the grade of O-3 unless the officer receives a baccalaureate degree in nursing.

“(b) REPORT ON IMPLEMENTATION.—Not later than April 1, 1990, the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and House of Representatives a report on the actions taken by the Secretaries of the military departments to implement the program required by this section.”