

as is authorized by applicable laws and regulations.

(Added Pub. L. 95-610, §2(a), Nov. 8, 1978, 92 Stat. 3085, §975; renumbered §976, Pub. L. 96-107, title VIII, §821(a), Nov. 9, 1979, 93 Stat. 820; amended Pub. L. 98-525, title IV, §414(a)(6), Oct. 19, 1984, 98 Stat. 2519; Pub. L. 99-661, div. A, title XIII, §1343(a)(2), Nov. 14, 1986, 100 Stat. 3992; Pub. L. 100-26, §7(k)(2), Apr. 21, 1987, 101 Stat. 284; Pub. L. 105-85, div. A, title X, §1073(a)(15), Nov. 18, 1997, 111 Stat. 1900.)

#### AMENDMENTS

1997—Subsec. (f). Pub. L. 105-85 substituted “shall be fined under title 18 or imprisoned not more than 5 years, or both, except that, in the case of an organization (as defined in section 18 of such title), the fine shall not be less than \$25,000.” for “shall, in the case of an individual, be fined not more than \$10,000 or imprisoned not more than five years, or both, and in the case of an organization or association, be fined not less than \$25,000 and not more than \$250,000.”

1987—Subsec. (a)(1) to (3). Pub. L. 100-26 inserted “The term” after each par. designation and struck out uppercase letter of first word after first quotation marks in each paragraph and substituted lowercase letter.

1986—Subsec. (a)(1). Pub. L. 99-661 struck out the second of two commas before “(B)”.

1984—Subsec. (a)(1). Pub. L. 98-525 added cl. (B) and redesignated existing cl. (B) as (C).

#### CONGRESSIONAL FINDINGS AND DECLARATION OF PURPOSE

Section 1 of Pub. L. 95-610 provided that:

“(a) The Congress makes the following findings:

“(1) Members of the armed forces of the United States must be prepared to fight and, if necessary, to die to protect the welfare, security, and liberty of the United States and of their fellow citizens.

“(2) Discipline and prompt obedience to lawful orders of superior officers are essential and time-honored elements of the American military tradition and have been reinforced from the earliest articles of war by laws and regulations prohibiting conduct detrimental to the military chain of command and lawful military authority.

“(3) The processes of conventional collective bargaining and labor-management negotiation cannot and should not be applied to the relationships between members of the armed forces and their military and civilian superiors.

“(4) Strikes, slowdowns, picketing, and other traditional forms of job action have no place in the armed forces.

“(5) Unionization of the armed forces would be incompatible with the military chain of command, would undermine the role, authority, and position of the commander, and would impair the morale and readiness of the armed forces.

“(6) The circumstances which could constitute a threat to the ability of the armed forces to perform their mission are not comparable to the circumstances which could constitute a threat to the ability of Federal civilian agencies to perform their functions and should be viewed in light of the need for effective performance of duty by each member of the armed forces.

“(b) The purpose of this Act [enacting this section] is to promote the readiness of the armed forces to defend the United States.”

#### **[§ 977. Repealed. Pub. L. 108-375, div. A, title VI, § 651(e)(1), Oct. 28, 2004, 118 Stat. 1972]**

Section, added Pub. L. 103-160, div. A, title III, §351(a), Nov. 30, 1993, 107 Stat. 1626; amended Pub. L. 105-85, div. A, title X, §1073(a)(16), Nov. 18, 1997, 111 Stat. 1901; Pub. L. 106-65, div. A, title X, §1066(a)(6),

Oct. 5, 1999, 113 Stat. 770, related to prohibition of assignment of active duty members to operation of commissary stores.

A prior section, added Pub. L. 96-342, title X, §1002(a), Sept. 8, 1980, 94 Stat. 1119; amended Pub. L. 97-22, §11(a)(1), July 10, 1981, 95 Stat. 137, provided that no one who originally enlisted after Sept. 7, 1980, in a regular armed services component and failed to serve at least 24 months of such enlistment would be eligible for Federal benefits otherwise receivable because of active service under such enlistment, except that such exclusion was not applicable to one discharged under section 1173 of chapter 61 of this title or to one later proved to be suffering from a disability resulting from an injury or disease incurred during enlistment, prior to repeal by Pub. L. 97-306, title IV, §408(c)(1), Oct. 14, 1982, 96 Stat. 1446. See section 5303A of Title 38, Veterans' Benefits, and provisions set out as notes under that section.

#### **§ 978. Drug and alcohol abuse and dependency: testing of new entrants**

(a)(1) The Secretary concerned shall require that, except as provided under paragraph (2), each person applying for an original enlistment or appointment in the armed forces shall be required, before becoming a member of the armed forces, to—

(A) undergo testing (by practicable, scientifically supported means) for drug and alcohol use; and

(B) be evaluated for drug and alcohol dependency.

(2) The Secretary concerned may provide that, in lieu of undergoing the testing and evaluation described in paragraph (1) before becoming a member of the armed forces, a member of the armed forces under the Secretary's jurisdiction may be administered that testing and evaluation after the member's initial entry on active duty. In any such case, the testing and evaluation shall be carried out within 72 hours of the member's initial entry on active duty.

(3) The Secretary concerned shall require an applicant for appointment as a cadet or midshipman to undergo the testing and evaluation described in paragraph (1) within 72 hours of such appointment. The Secretary concerned shall require a person to whom a commission is offered under section 2106 of this title following completion of the program of advanced training under the Reserve Officers' Training Corps program to undergo such testing and evaluation before such an appointment is executed.

(b) A person who refuses to consent to testing and evaluation required by subsection (a) may not (unless that person subsequently consents to such testing and evaluation)—

(1) be accepted for an original enlistment in the armed forces or given an original appointment as an officer in the armed forces; or

(2) if such person is already a member of the armed forces, be retained in the armed forces.

An original appointment of any such person as an officer shall be terminated.

(c)(1) A person determined, as the result of testing conducted under subsection (a)(1), to be dependent on drugs or alcohol shall be denied entrance into the armed forces.

(2) The enlistment or appointment of a person who is determined, as a result of an evaluation conducted under subsection (a)(2), to be dependent on drugs or alcohol at the time of such enlistment or appointment shall be void.