

AMENDMENTS

2016—Pub. L. 114-328 renumbered section 311 of this title as this section.

1993—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 103-160 substituted “members” for “commissioned officers”.

1958—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 85-861 included female citizens of the United States who are commissioned officers of the National Guard.

§ 247. Militia duty: exemptions

(a) The following persons are exempt from militia duty:

- (1) The Vice President.
(2) The judicial and executive officers of the United States, the several States, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Guam, and the Virgin Islands.
(3) Members of the armed forces, except members who are not on active duty.
(4) Customhouse clerks.
(5) Persons employed by the United States in the transmission of mail.
(6) Workmen employed in armories, arsenals, and naval shipyards of the United States.
(7) Pilots on navigable waters.
(8) Mariners in the sea service of a citizen of, or a merchant in, the United States.

(b) A person who claims exemption because of religious belief is exempt from militia duty in a combatant capacity, if the conscientious holding of that belief is established under such regulations as the President may prescribe. However, such a person is not exempt from militia duty that the President determines to be non-combatant.

(Aug. 10, 1956, ch. 1041, 70A Stat. 15, §312; Pub. L. 100-456, div. A, title XII, §1234(a)(3), Sept. 29, 1988, 102 Stat. 2059; Pub. L. 109-163, div. A, title X, §1057(a)(7), Jan. 6, 2006, 119 Stat. 3441; renumbered §247, Pub. L. 114-328, div. A, title XII, §1241(a)(2), Dec. 23, 2016, 130 Stat. 2497.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Table with 3 columns: Revised section, Source (U.S. Code), Source (Statutes at Large). Rows for 312(a) and 312(b).

In subsection (a), the words “Members of the armed forces” are substituted for the words “persons in the military or naval service”. The words “except members who are not on active duty” are inserted to reflect an opinion of the Judge Advocate General of the Army (JAGA 1952/4374, 9 July 1952). The word “artificers” is omitted as covered by the word “workmen”. The words “naval shipyards” are substituted for the words “navy yards” to reflect modern terminology. The words “on navigable waters” are inserted to preserve the original coverage of the word “pilots”. The words “actually” and “without regard to age” are omitted as surplusage.

AMENDMENTS

2016—Pub. L. 114-328 renumbered section 312 of this title as this section.

2006—Subsec. (a)(2). Pub. L. 109-163 substituted “States, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Guam, and the Virgin Islands” for “States and Territories, and Puerto Rico”.

1988—Subsec. (a)(2). Pub. L. 100-456 substituted “and Puerto Rico” for “Puerto Rico, and the Canal Zone”.

CHAPTER 13—INSURRECTION

- Sec. 251.1 Federal aid for State governments.
252.1 Use of militia and armed forces to enforce Federal authority.
253.1 Interference with State and Federal law.
254.1 Proclamation to disperse.
255. Guam and Virgin Islands included as “State”.

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior chapter 13, consisting of sections 311 and 312, was renumbered chapter 12, and sections 311 and 312 were renumbered sections 246 and 247, respectively.

AMENDMENTS

2016—Pub. L. 114-328, div. A, title XII, §1241(a)(1), (o)(2), Dec. 23, 2016, 130 Stat. 2497, 2512, renumbered chapter 15 of this title “INSURRECTION” as chapter 13, redesignated item 331 “Federal aid for State governments” as item 251, redesignated item 332 “Use of militia and armed forces to enforce Federal authority” as item 252, redesignated item 333 “Interference with State and Federal law” as item 253, redesignated item 334 “Proclamation to disperse” as item 254, and redesignated item 335 “Guam and Virgin Islands included as ‘State’” as item 255.

2008—Pub. L. 110-181, div. A, title X, §1068(a)(3), (4)(A), Jan. 28, 2008, 122 Stat. 325, substituted “INSURRECTION” for “ENFORCEMENT OF THE LAWS TO RESTORE PUBLIC ORDER” in chapter heading, added item 333, and struck out former item 333 “Major public emergencies; interference with State and Federal law”.

2006—Pub. L. 109-364, div. A, title X, §1076(a)(3), (4)(B), Oct. 17, 2006, 120 Stat. 2405, substituted “ENFORCEMENT OF THE LAWS TO RESTORE PUBLIC ORDER” for “INSURRECTION” in chapter heading and “Major public emergencies; interference with State and Federal law” for “Interference with State and Federal law” in item 333.

1980—Pub. L. 96-513, title V, §511(11)(C), Dec. 12, 1980, 94 Stat. 2921, added item 335.

§ 251.1 Federal aid for State governments

Whenever there is an insurrection in any State against its government, the President may, upon the request of its legislature or of its governor if the legislature cannot be convened, call into Federal service such of the militia of the other States, in the number requested by that State, and use such of the armed forces, as he considers necessary to suppress the insurrection.

(Aug. 10, 1956, ch. 1041, 70A Stat. 15, §331; renumbered §251, Pub. L. 114-328, div. A, title XII, §1241(a)(2), Dec. 23, 2016, 130 Stat. 2497.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Table with 3 columns: Revised section, Source (U.S. Code), Source (Statutes at Large). Row for 331.

The words “armed forces” are substituted for the words “land or naval forces of the United States”. The word “governor” is substituted for the word “executive”. The word “may” is substituted for the words “it shall be lawful * * * to”. The words “into Federal service” are substituted for the word “forth” for uniformity and clarity.

AMENDMENTS

2016—Pub. L. 114-328 renumbered section 331 of this title as this section.

1 Items numbered 251 to 254 also appear in the analysis for chapter 9A of this title.

1 Another section 251 is set out in chapter 9A of this title.

§ 252.¹ Use of militia and armed forces to enforce Federal authority

Whenever the President considers that unlawful obstructions, combinations, or assemblages, or rebellion against the authority of the United States, make it impracticable to enforce the laws of the United States in any State by the ordinary course of judicial proceedings, he may call into Federal service such of the militia of any State, and use such of the armed forces, as he considers necessary to enforce those laws or to suppress the rebellion.

(Aug. 10, 1956, ch. 1041, 70A Stat. 15, §332; Pub. L. 109-163, div. A, title X, §1057(a)(2), Jan. 6, 2006, 119 Stat. 3440; renumbered §252, Pub. L. 114-328, div. A, title XII, §1241(a)(2), Dec. 23, 2016, 130 Stat. 2497.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
332	50:202.	R.S. 5298.

50:202 (last 22 words) is omitted as surplusage. The words “armed forces” are substituted for the words “land and naval forces of the United States”. The words “call into Federal service such of the militia” are substituted for the words “call forth the militia of any or all the States” for clarity and uniformity. The word “may” is substituted for the words “it shall be lawful”. The words “faithful execution of the” and “in whatever State or Territory thereof the laws of the United States may be forcibly opposed” are omitted as surplusage.

DERIVATION

Act July 29, 1861, ch. 25, §1, 12 Stat. 281.

AMENDMENTS

2016—Pub. L. 114-328 renumbered section 332 of this title as this section.

2006—Pub. L. 109-163 struck out “or Territory” after “in any State”.

EX. ORD. NO. 10730. ASSISTANCE FOR REMOVAL OF AN OBSTRUCTION OF JUSTICE WITHIN THE STATE OF ARKANSAS

Ex. Ord. No. 10730, Sept. 24, 1957, 22 F.R. 7628, authorized the Secretary of Defense to order into the active military service of the United States units of the National Guard of the United States and of the Air National Guard of the United States within the State of Arkansas for an indefinite period and until relieved by appropriate orders in order to enforce any orders of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Arkansas for the removal of obstructions to justice in respect to enrollment and attendance at public schools in the Little Rock School District, Little Rock, Arkansas; authorized the Secretary of Defense to also use the armed forces of the United States to enforce such orders of the district court; and authorized the Secretary of Defense to delegate his authority to the Secretary of the Army or the Secretary of the Air Force.

EX. ORD. NO. 11053. ASSISTANCE FOR REMOVAL OF UNLAWFUL OBSTRUCTIONS OF JUSTICE IN THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

Ex. Ord. No. 11053, Sept. 30, 1962, 27 F.R. 9681, authorized the Secretary of Defense to call into the active military service of the United States units of the Army National Guard and of the Air National Guard of the State of Mississippi for an indefinite period and until

relieved by appropriate orders in order to enforce all orders of the United States District Court for the Southern District of Mississippi and of the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit for the removal of obstructions to justice in the State of Mississippi; authorized the Secretary of Defense to also use the armed forces of the United States to enforce such court orders; and authorized the Secretary of Defense to delegate his authority to the Secretary of the Army or the Secretary of the Air Force.

EX. ORD. NO. 11111. ASSISTANCE FOR REMOVAL OF OBSTRUCTIONS OF JUSTICE AND SUPPRESSION OF UNLAWFUL COMBINATIONS WITHIN THE STATE OF ALABAMA

Ex. Ord. No. 11111, June 11, 1963, 28 F.R. 5709, authorized the Secretary of Defense to call into the active military service of the United States units of the Army National Guard and of the Air National Guard of the State of Alabama for an indefinite period and until relieved by appropriate orders in order to enforce the laws of the United States within that State and the orders of the United States District Court for the Northern District of Alabama, to remove obstructions to justice, and to suppress unlawful assemblies, conspiracies, and domestic violence which oppose the laws of the United States or impede the course of justice under those laws within that State; authorized the Secretary of Defense to also use the armed forces of the United States for such purposes; and authorized the Secretary of Defense to delegate his authority to the Secretary of the Army or the Secretary of the Air Force.

EX. ORD. NO. 11118. ASSISTANCE FOR REMOVAL OF UNLAWFUL OBSTRUCTIONS OF JUSTICE IN THE STATE OF ALABAMA

Ex. Ord. No. 11118, Sept. 10, 1963, 28 F.R. 9863, authorized the Secretary of Defense to call into the active military service of the United States units of the Army National Guard and of the Air National Guard of the State of Alabama for an indefinite period and until relieved by appropriate orders in order to enforce the laws of the United States and any orders of United States Courts relating to the enrollment and attendance of students in public schools in the State of Alabama and to suppress unlawful assemblies, conspiracies, and domestic violence which oppose the law or impede the course of justice under the law within that State; authorized the Secretary of Defense to also use the armed forces of the United States for such purposes; and authorized the Secretary of Defense to delegate his authority to the Secretary of the Army or the Secretary of the Air Force.

§ 253.¹ Interference with State and Federal law

The President, by using the militia or the armed forces, or both, or by any other means, shall take such measures as he considers necessary to suppress, in a State, any insurrection, domestic violence, unlawful combination, or conspiracy, if it—

(1) so hinders the execution of the laws of that State, and of the United States within the State, that any part or class of its people is deprived of a right, privilege, immunity, or protection named in the Constitution and secured by law, and the constituted authorities of that State are unable, fail, or refuse to protect that right, privilege, or immunity, or to give that protection; or

(2) opposes or obstructs the execution of the laws of the United States or impedes the course of justice under those laws.

In any situation covered by clause (1), the State shall be considered to have denied the equal protection of the laws secured by the Constitution.

¹ Another section 252 is set out in chapter 9A of this title.

¹ Another section 253 is set out in chapter 9A of this title.