

and after that effective date, including any nomination pending in the Senate on that date, see section 6(a) of Pub. L. 112-166, set out as a note under section 113 of Title 6, Domestic Security.

§ 3027. General qualification of officers for promotion to higher permanent grade

No officer may be promoted to a higher permanent grade on the active list until the officer has passed a satisfactory mental and physical examination in accordance with regulations prescribed by the Secretary.

(Pub. L. 107-372, title II, §227, Dec. 19, 2002, 116 Stat. 3085.)

PRIOR PROVISIONS

Provisions similar to those in this section were contained in section 854 of this title prior to repeal by Pub. L. 107-372.

§ 3028. Positions of importance and responsibility

(a) Designation of positions

The Secretary may designate positions in the Administration as being positions of importance and responsibility for which it is appropriate that officers of the Administration, if serving in those positions, serve in the grade of vice admiral, rear admiral, or rear admiral (lower half), as designated by the Secretary for each position.

(b) Assignment of officers to designated positions

The Secretary may assign officers to positions designated under subsection (a).

(c) Director of NOAA Corps and Office of Marine and Aviation Operations

The Secretary shall designate one position under this section as responsible for oversight of the vessel and aircraft fleets and for the administration of the commissioned officer corps. That position shall be filled by an officer on the lineal list serving in or above the grade of rear admiral (lower half). For the specific purpose of administering the commissioned officer corps, that position shall carry the title of Director of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Commissioned Officer Corps. For the specific purpose of administering the vessel and aircraft fleets, that position shall carry the title of Director of the Office of Marine and Aviation Operations.

(d) Grade

(1) Temporary appointment to grade designated for position

An officer assigned to a position under this section while so serving has the grade designated for that position, if appointed to that grade by the President.

(2) Reversion to permanent grade

An officer who has served in a grade above captain, upon termination of the officer's assignment to the position for which that appointment was made, shall, unless appointed or assigned to another position for which a higher grade is designated, revert to the grade and number the officer would have occupied but for serving in a grade above that of captain. In such a case, the officer shall be an extra number in that grade.

(e) Number of officers appointed

(1) Overall limit

The total number of officers serving on active duty at any one time in the grade of rear admiral (lower half) or above may not exceed four.

(2) Limit by grade

The number of officers serving on active duty under appointments under this section may not exceed—

- (A) one in the grade of vice admiral;
- (B) two in the grade of rear admiral; and
- (C) two in the grade of rear admiral (lower half).

(f) Pay and allowances

An officer appointed to a grade under this section, while serving in that grade, shall have the pay and allowances of the grade to which appointed.

(g) Effect of appointment

An appointment of an officer under this section—

- (1) does not vacate the permanent grade held by the officer; and
- (2) creates a vacancy on the active list.

(Pub. L. 107-372, title II, §228, Dec. 19, 2002, 116 Stat. 3086; Pub. L. 112-166, §2(gg)(2), Aug. 10, 2012, 126 Stat. 1290.)

PRIOR PROVISIONS

Provisions similar to those in this section were contained in section 853u of this title prior to repeal by Pub. L. 107-372.

AMENDMENTS

2012—Subsec. (d)(1). Pub. L. 112-166 struck out “, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate” before period at end.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2012 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 112-166 effective 60 days after Aug. 10, 2012, and applicable to appointments made on and after that effective date, including any nomination pending in the Senate on that date, see section 6(a) of Pub. L. 112-166, set out as a note under section 113 of Title 6, Domestic Security.

APPOINTMENT OF COMMISSIONED OFFICERS

Pub. L. 98-498, title III, §320(c)(2), Oct. 19, 1984, 98 Stat. 2309, provided that: “After the date of the enactment of this Act [Oct. 19, 1984], no appointment of a commissioned officer may be made under section 2(d) or 2(f) of Reorganization Plan Numbered 4 of 1970 (84 Stat. 2090, 5 U.S.C. App.).”

§ 3029. Temporary appointments and promotions generally

(a) Ensign

Temporary appointments in the grade of ensign may be made by the President. Each such temporary appointment terminates at the close of the next regular session of the Congress.

(b) Lieutenant (junior grade)

Officers in the permanent grade of ensign may be temporarily promoted to and appointed in the grade of lieutenant (junior grade) by the President whenever vacancies exist in higher grades.

(c) Any one grade

When determined by the Secretary to be in the best interest of the service, officers in any per-