

SUBCHAPTER III—SEPARATION AND  
RETIREMENT OF OFFICERS

**§ 3041. Involuntary retirement or separation**

**(a) Transfer of officers to retired list; separation from service**

As recommended by a personnel board convened under section 3022 of this title—

(1) an officer in the permanent grade of captain or commander may be transferred to the retired list; and

(2) an officer in the permanent grade of lieutenant commander, lieutenant, or lieutenant (junior grade) who is not qualified for retirement may be separated from the service.

**(b) Computations**

In any fiscal year, the total number of officers selected for retirement or separation under subsection (a) plus the number of officers retired for age may not exceed the whole number nearest 4 percent of the total number of officers authorized to be on the active list, except as otherwise provided by law.

**(c) Effective date of retirements and separations**

A retirement or separation under subsection (a) shall take effect on the first day of the sixth month beginning after the date on which the Secretary approves the retirement or separation, except that if the officer concerned requests an earlier retirement or separation date, the date shall be as determined by the Secretary.

(Pub. L. 107-372, title II, §241, Dec. 19, 2002, 116 Stat. 3088.)

PRIOR PROVISIONS

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

**§ 3042. Separation pay**

**(a) Authorization of payment**

An officer who is separated under section 3041(a)(2) of this title and who has completed more than three years of continuous active service immediately before that separation is entitled to separation pay computed under subsection (b) unless the Secretary determines that the conditions under which the officer is separated do not warrant payment of that pay.

**(b) Amount of separation pay**

**(1) Six or more years**

In the case of an officer who has completed six or more years of continuous active service immediately before that separation, the amount of separation pay to be paid to the officer under this section is 10 percent of the product of—

(A) the years of active service creditable to the officer; and

(B) 12 times the monthly basic pay to which the officer was entitled at the time of separation.

**(2) Three to six years**

In the case of an officer who has completed three or more but fewer than six years of continuous active service immediately before that

separation, the amount of separation pay to be paid to the officer under this section is one-half of the amount computed under paragraph (1).

**(c) Other conditions, requirements, and administrative provisions**

The provisions of subsections (f), (g), and (h) of section 1174 of title 10 shall apply to separation pay under this section in the same manner as such provisions apply to separation pay under that section.

(Pub. L. 107-372, title II, §242, Dec. 19, 2002, 116 Stat. 3088.)

PRIOR PROVISIONS

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

**§ 3043. Mandatory retirement for age**

**(a) Officers below grade of rear admiral (lower half)**

Unless retired or separated earlier, each officer on the lineal list of the commissioned corps who is serving in a grade below the grade of rear admiral (lower half) shall be retired on the first day of the month following the month in which the officer becomes 62 years of age.

**(b) Flag officers**

Notwithstanding subsection (a), the President may defer the retirement of an officer serving in a position that carries a grade above captain for such period as the President considers advisable, but such a deferment may not extend beyond the first day of the month following the month in which the officer becomes 64 years of age.

(Pub. L. 107-372, title II, §243, Dec. 19, 2002, 116 Stat. 3089.)

PRIOR PROVISIONS

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

DELEGATION OF FUNCTIONS

Functions of President under subsec. (b) of this section delegated to Secretary of Commerce by section 1(e) of Ex. Ord. No. 11023, May 28, 1962, 27 F.R. 5131, as amended, set out as a note under section 301 of Title 3, The President.

**§ 3044. Retirement for length of service**

An officer who has completed 20 years of service, of which at least 10 years was service as a commissioned officer, may at any time thereafter, upon application by such officer and in the discretion of the President, be placed on the retired list.

(Pub. L. 107-372, title II, §244, Dec. 19, 2002, 116 Stat. 3089.)

PRIOR PROVISIONS

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

DELEGATION OF FUNCTIONS

Functions of President under this section delegated to Secretary of Commerce by section 1(f) of Ex. Ord.