

not on a list of officers recommended for promotion to the regular grade of major general or rear admiral, respectively, shall, if not earlier retired, be retired on the first day of the first month beginning after the date of the fifth anniversary of his appointment to that grade or on the first day of the month after the month in which he completes 30 years of active commissioned service, whichever is later.

(Added Pub. L. 96-513, title I, §105, Dec. 12, 1980, 94 Stat. 2863; amended Pub. L. 97-86, title IV, §405(b)(1), (5)(A), Dec. 1, 1981, 95 Stat. 1105, 1106; Pub. L. 98-525, title XIV, §1405(13), Oct. 19, 1984, 98 Stat. 2622; Pub. L. 99-145, title V, §514(b)(1), (5)(A), Nov. 8, 1985, 99 Stat. 628; Pub. L. 114-328, div. A, title V, §505(b)(3), Dec. 23, 2016, 130 Stat. 2108.)

#### AMENDMENTS

2016—Pub. L. 114-328 inserted “or 637a” after “637(b)”.  
 1985—Pub. L. 99-145 substituted “rear admirals (lower half)” for “commodores” in section catchline and “rear admiral (lower half)” for “commodore” in text.  
 1984—Pub. L. 98-525 substituted “30” for “thirty”.  
 1981—Pub. L. 97-86 substituted “commodores” for “commodore admirals” in section catchline and “commodore” for “commodore admiral” in text.

#### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1981 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 97-86 effective Sept. 15, 1981, see section 405(f) of Pub. L. 97-86, set out as a note under section 101 of this title.

#### EFFECTIVE DATE

Section effective Sept. 15, 1981, but the authority to prescribe regulations under this section 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.

### § 636. Retirement for years of service: regular officers in grades above brigadier general and rear admiral (lower half)

(a) MAJOR GENERALS AND REAR ADMIRALS SERVING IN GRADE.—Except as provided in subsection (b) or (c) and under section 637(b) or 637a of this title, each officer of the Regular Army, Regular Air Force, or Regular Marine Corps who holds the regular grade of major general, and each officer of the Regular Navy who holds the regular grade of rear admiral, shall, if not earlier retired, be retired on the first day of the first month beginning after the date of the fifth anniversary of his appointment to that grade or on the first day of the month after the month in which he completes 35 years of active commissioned service, whichever is later.

(b) LIEUTENANT GENERALS AND VICE ADMIRALS.—In the administration of subsection (a) in the case of an officer who is serving in the grade of lieutenant general or vice admiral, the number of years of active commissioned service applicable to the officer is 38 years.

(c) GENERALS AND ADMIRALS.—In the administration of subsection (a) in the case of an officer who is serving in the grade of general or admiral, the number of years of active commissioned service applicable to the officer is 40 years.

(Added Pub. L. 96-513, title I, §105, Dec. 12, 1980, 94 Stat. 2863; amended Pub. L. 98-525, title XIV, §1405(14), Oct. 19, 1984, 98 Stat. 2622; Pub. L. 105-85, div. A, title V, §506(a), (b), Nov. 18, 1997,

111 Stat. 1726; Pub. L. 114-328, div. A, title V, §505(b)(4), Dec. 23, 2016, 130 Stat. 2108.)

#### AMENDMENTS

2016—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 114-328 inserted “or 637a” after “637(b)”.

1997—Pub. L. 105-85, §506(b), substituted “regular officers in grades above brigadier general and rear admiral (lower half)” for “regular major generals and rear admirals” in section catchline.

Pub. L. 105-85, §506(a), designated existing provisions as subsec. (a), inserted heading, substituted “Except as provided in subsection (b) or (c) and” for “Except as provided”, and added subsecs. (b) and (c).

1984—Pub. L. 98-525 substituted “35” for “thirty-five”.

#### EFFECTIVE DATE

Section effective Sept. 15, 1981, but the authority to prescribe regulations under this section 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.

### SUBCHAPTER IV—CONTINUATION ON ACTIVE DUTY AND SELECTIVE EARLY RETIREMENT

Sec.	
637.	Selection of regular officers for continuation on active duty.
637a.	Continuation on active duty: officers in certain military specialties and career tracks.
638.	Selective early retirement.
638a.	Modification to rules for continuation on active duty; enhanced authority for selective early retirement and early discharges.
638b.	Voluntary retirement incentive.
639.	Continuation on active duty to complete disciplinary action.
640.	Deferment of retirement or separation for medical reasons.

#### AMENDMENTS

2016—Pub. L. 114-328, div. A, title V, §505(a)(2), Dec. 23, 2016, 130 Stat. 2108, added item 637a.

2011—Pub. L. 112-81, div. A, title V, §504(a)(2), 125 Stat. 1390, added item 638b.

1990—Pub. L. 101-510, div. A, title V, §521(a)(2), Nov. 5, 1990, 104 Stat. 1561, added item 638a.

### § 637. Selection of regular officers for continuation on active duty

(a)(1) An officer subject to discharge or retirement in accordance with section 632 of this title may, subject to the needs of the service, be continued on active duty if he is selected for continuation on active duty by a selection board convened under section 611(b) of this title.

(2) An officer who holds the regular grade of captain in the Army, Air Force, or Marine Corps, or the regular grade of lieutenant in the Navy, and who is subject to discharge or retirement in accordance with section 632 of this title may not be continued on active duty under this subsection for a period which extends beyond the last day of the month in which he completes 20 years of active commissioned service unless he is promoted to the regular grade of major or lieutenant commander, respectively.

(3) An officer who holds the regular grade of major or lieutenant commander who is subject to discharge or retirement in accordance with section 632 of this title may not be continued on active duty under this subsection for a period