

Subsec. (b)(3). Pub. L. 111-383, §581(d)(2), added par. (3).

2009—Subsec. (b)(1)(C) to (E). Pub. L. 111-84, §562(a), added subpar. (C), redesignated former subpars. (C) and (D) as (D) and (E), respectively, and substituted “subparagraphs (B) and (C)” for “subparagraph (B)” in subpar. (E).

Subsec. (b)(2). Pub. L. 111-84, §562(b), substituted “subparagraphs (C) and (D) of paragraph (1)” for “paragraph (1)(C)” and inserted at end “Representation on the Council required by clause (i) of paragraph (1)(C) shall rotate between the Army National Guard and Air National Guard. Representation required by clause (ii) of such paragraph shall rotate among the reserve components specified in such clause.”

#### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2018 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 115-232, div. A, title V, §571(d), Aug. 13, 2018, 132 Stat. 1778, provided that:

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The amendments made by this section [amending this section] shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act [Aug. 13, 2018].

“(2) APPLICABILITY OF MEMBERSHIP AND TERM AMENDMENTS.—The amendments made by subsection (a) shall apply to members of the Department of Defense Military Family Readiness Council appointed after the date of the enactment of this Act.”

#### TERMINATION OF REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

For termination, effective Dec. 31, 2021, of provisions in subsec. (e) of this section requiring submittal of annual report to Congress, see section 1061 of Pub. L. 114-328, set out as a note under section 111 of this title.

### § 1781b. Department of Defense policy and plans for military family readiness

(a) POLICY AND PLANS REQUIRED.—The Secretary of Defense shall develop a policy and plans for the Department of Defense for the support of military family readiness.

(b) PURPOSES.—The purposes of the policy and plans required under subsection (a) are as follows:

(1) To ensure that the military family readiness programs and activities of the Department of Defense are comprehensive, effective, and properly supported.

(2) To ensure that support is continuously available to military families in peacetime and in war, as well as during periods of force structure change and relocation of military units.

(3) To ensure that the military family readiness programs and activities of the Department of Defense are available to all military families, including military families of members of the regular components and military families of members of the reserve components.

(4) To make military family readiness an explicit element of applicable Department of Defense plans, programs, and budgeting activities, and that achievement of military family readiness is expressed through Department-wide goals that are identifiable and measurable.

(5) To ensure that the military family readiness programs and activities of the Department of Defense undergo continuous evaluation in order to ensure that resources are allocated and expended for such programs and activities to achieve Department-wide family readiness goals.

(c) ELEMENTS OF POLICY.—The policy required under subsection (a) shall include the following elements:

(1) A list of military family readiness programs and activities.

(2) Department of Defense-wide goals for military family support, including joint programs, both for military families of members of the regular components and military families of members of the reserve components.

(3) Policies on access to military family support programs and activities based on military family populations served and geographical location.

(4) Metrics to measure the performance and effectiveness of the military family readiness programs and activities of the Department of Defense.

(5) A summary, by fiscal year, of the allocation of funds (including appropriated funds and nonappropriated funds) for major categories of military family readiness programs and activities of the Department of Defense, set forth for each of the military departments and for the Office of the Secretary of Defense.

(Added Pub. L. 110-181, div. A, title V, §581(a), Jan. 28, 2008, 122 Stat. 121; amended Pub. L. 111-383, div. A, title X, §1075(b)(23), Jan. 7, 2011, 124 Stat. 4370; Pub. L. 115-91, div. A, title X, §1051(a)(9), Dec. 12, 2017, 131 Stat. 1560.)

#### AMENDMENTS

2017—Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 115-91 struck out subsec. (d). Text read as follows: “Not later than March 1 each year, the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the congressional defense committees a report on the plans required under subsection (a) for the five-fiscal year period beginning with the fiscal year in which the report is submitted. Each report shall include the plans covered by the report and an assessment of the discharge by the Department of Defense of the previous plans submitted under this section.”

2011—Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 111-383 substituted “March 1 each year” for “March 1, 2008, and each year thereafter”.

### § 1781c. Office of Special Needs

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is in the Office of Military Family Readiness Policy the Office of Special Needs (in this section referred to as the “Office”).

(b) PURPOSE.—The purpose of the Office is to enhance and improve Department of Defense support around the world for military families with special needs (whether medical or educational needs) through the development of appropriate policies, enhancement and dissemination of appropriate information throughout the Department of Defense, support for such families in obtaining referrals for services and in obtaining service, and oversight of the activities of the military departments in support of such families.

(c) RESPONSIBILITIES.—The Office shall have the responsibilities as follows:

(1) To develop and implement a comprehensive policy on support for military families with special needs as required by subsection (d).

(2) To establish and oversee the programs required by subsection (e).

(3) To identify gaps in services available through the Department of Defense for military families with special needs.

(4) To develop plans to address gaps identified under paragraph (3) through appropriate