

tired member ordered to active duty under section 688 or 688a of this title who has previously served on active duty satisfactorily, as determined by the Secretary of the military department concerned, in a grade higher than that member's retired grade may be ordered to active duty in the highest grade in which the member had so served satisfactorily, except that such a member may not be so ordered to active duty in a grade above major general or rear admiral.

(2) A retired member ordered to active duty in a grade that is higher than the member's retired grade pursuant to subsection (a) shall be treated for purposes of section 690 of this title as if the member was promoted to that higher grade while on that tour of active duty.

(3) If, upon being released from that tour of active duty, such a retired member has served on active duty satisfactorily, as determined by the Secretary concerned, for not less than a total of 36 months in a grade that is a higher grade than the member's retired grade, the member is entitled to placement on the retired list in that grade.

(d) **GRADE UPON RELEASE FROM ACTIVE DUTY.**—A member ordered to active duty under section 688 or 688a of this title who, while on active duty, is promoted to a grade that is higher than that member's retired grade is entitled, upon that member's release from that tour of active duty, to placement on the retired list in the highest grade in which the member served on active duty satisfactorily, as determined by the Secretary of the military department concerned, for not less than six months.

(Added Pub. L. 104-201, div. A, title V, §521(a), Sept. 23, 1996, 110 Stat. 2516; amended Pub. L. 107-314, div. A, title V, §503(b)(1), Dec. 2, 2002, 116 Stat. 2531.)

Editorial Notes

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 689 was renumbered section 12320 of this title.

Provisions similar to those in this section were contained in section 688(b) and (d) of this title prior to repeal by Pub. L. 104-201, §521(a).

AMENDMENTS

2002—Subsecs. (a), (b), (c)(1), (d). Pub. L. 107-314 inserted “or 688a” after “section 688”.

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

EFFECTIVE DATE

Section effective Sept. 30, 1997, see section 521(b) of Pub. L. 104-201, set out as a note under section 688 of this title.

APPLICABILITY

Pub. L. 107-314, div. A, title V, §503(b)(2), Dec. 2, 2002, 116 Stat. 2531, provided that: “The provisions of section 689(d) of title 10, United States Code, shall apply with respect to an officer ordered to active duty under section 501 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2000 (Public Law 106-65; 113 Stat. 589) before the date of the enactment of this Act [Dec. 2, 2002] in the same manner as such provisions apply to an officer ordered to active duty under section 688 of such title.”

§ 690. Retired members ordered to active duty: limitation on number

(a) **GENERAL AND FLAG OFFICERS.**—Not more than 15 retired general officers of the Army, Air

Force, or Marine Corps, and not more than 15 retired flag officers of the Navy, may be on active duty at any one time. For the purposes of this subsection a retired officer ordered to active duty for a period of 60 days or less is not counted.

(b) **LIMITATION BY SERVICE.**—(1) Not more than 25 officers of any one armed force may be serving on active duty concurrently pursuant to orders to active duty issued under section 688 of this title.

(2) In the administration of paragraph (1), the following officers shall not be counted:

(A) A chaplain who is assigned to duty as a chaplain for the period of active duty to which ordered.

(B) A health care professional (as characterized by the Secretary concerned) who is assigned to duty as a health care professional for the period of the active duty to which ordered.

(C) Any officer assigned to duty with the American Battle Monuments Commission for the period of active duty to which ordered.

(D) Any member of the Retiree Council of the Army, Navy, or Air Force for the period on active duty to attend the annual meeting of the Retiree Council.

(E) An officer who is assigned to duty as a defense attaché or service attaché for the period of active duty to which ordered.

(c) **WAIVER FOR PERIODS OF WAR OR NATIONAL EMERGENCY.**—Subsection (a) does not apply in time of war or of national emergency declared by Congress or the President after November 30, 1980. Subsection (b) does not apply in time of war or of national emergency declared by Congress or the President.

(Added Pub. L. 104-201, div. A, title V, §521(a), Sept. 23, 1996, 110 Stat. 2516; amended Pub. L. 106-65, div. A, title V, §507, Oct. 5, 1999, 113 Stat. 591; Pub. L. 107-107, div. A, title V, §509(b), Dec. 28, 2001, 115 Stat. 1091.)

Editorial Notes

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 690 was renumbered section 12321 of this title.

Provisions similar to those in subsecs. (a) and (c) of this section were contained in section 688(c) of this title prior to repeal by Pub. L. 104-201, §521(a).

AMENDMENTS

2001—Subsec. (b)(2)(E). Pub. L. 107-107 added subpar. (E).

1999—Subsec. (b)(2)(D). Pub. L. 106-65 added subpar. (D).

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2001 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 107-107 applicable with respect to officers serving on active duty as a defense attaché or service attaché on or after Dec. 28, 2001, see section 509(c) of Pub. L. 107-107, set out as a note under section 688 of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE

Section effective Sept. 30, 1997, see section 521(b) of Pub. L. 104-201, set out as a note under section 688 of this title.

§ 691. Permanent end strength levels to support the National Defense Strategy

(a) The end strengths specified in subsection (b) are the minimum strengths necessary to enable the armed forces to fulfill the national defense strategy of the United States.

(b) Unless otherwise provided by law, the number of members of the armed forces (other than the Coast Guard) on active duty at the end of any fiscal year shall be not less than the following:

- (1) For the Army, 485,000.
- (2) For the Navy, 346,920.
- (3) For the Marine Corps, 178,500.
- (4) For the Air Force, 329,220.
- (5) For the Space Force, 8,400.

(c) The budget for the Department of Defense for any fiscal year as submitted to Congress shall include amounts for funding for each of the armed forces (other than the Coast Guard) at least in the amounts necessary to maintain the active duty end strengths prescribed in subsection (b), as in effect at the time that such budget is submitted.

(d) No funds appropriated to the Department of Defense may be used to implement a reduction of the active duty end strength for any of the armed forces (other than the Coast Guard) for any fiscal year below the level specified in subsection (b) unless the reduction in end strength for that armed force for that fiscal year is specifically authorized by law.

(e) The Secretary of Defense or the Secretary concerned may vary a number specified in subsection (b) in accordance with section 115 of this title.

(f) The number of members of the armed forces on active duty shall be counted for purposes of this section in the same manner as applies under section 115(a)(1) of this title.

(Added Pub. L. 104-106, div. A, title IV, § 401(b)(1), Feb. 10, 1996, 110 Stat. 285; amended Pub. L. 104-201, div. A, title IV, § 402, Sept. 23, 1996, 110 Stat. 2503; Pub. L. 105-85, div. A, title IV, § 402, Nov. 18, 1997, 111 Stat. 1719; Pub. L. 105-261, div. A, title IV, § 402(a), (b), Oct. 17, 1998, 112 Stat. 1995, 1996; Pub. L. 106-65, div. A, title IV, § 402(a), title X, § 1066(b)(1), Oct. 5, 1999, 113 Stat. 585, 772; Pub. L. 106-398, § 1 [[div. A], title IV, §§ 402(a), 403], Oct. 30, 2000, 114 Stat. 1654, 1654A-92; Pub. L. 107-107, div. A, title IV, § 402, Dec. 28, 2001, 115 Stat. 1069; Pub. L. 107-314, div. A, title IV, § 402, Dec. 2, 2002, 116 Stat. 2524; Pub. L. 108-136, div. A, title IV, § 402, Nov. 24, 2003, 117 Stat. 1450; Pub. L. 108-375, div. A, title IV, § 402, Oct. 28, 2004, 118 Stat. 1862; Pub. L. 109-163, div. A, title IV, § 402, Jan. 6, 2006, 119 Stat. 3219; Pub. L. 109-364, div. A, title IV, § 402, Oct. 17, 2006, 120 Stat. 2169; Pub. L. 110-181, div. A, title IV, § 402, Jan. 28, 2008, 122 Stat. 86; Pub. L. 110-417, [div. A], title IV, § 402, Oct. 14, 2008, 122 Stat. 4428; Pub. L. 111-84, div. A, title IV, § 402, Oct. 28, 2009, 123 Stat. 2265; Pub. L. 111-383, div. A, title IV, § 402, Jan. 7, 2011, 124 Stat. 4202; Pub. L. 112-81, div. A, title IV, § 402, Dec. 31, 2011, 125 Stat. 1382; Pub. L. 112-239, div. A, title IV, § 402, Jan. 2, 2013, 126 Stat. 1708; Pub. L. 113-66, div. A, title IV, § 402(a), Dec. 26, 2013, 127 Stat. 744; Pub. L. 113-291, div. A, title IV, § 402, Dec. 19, 2014, 128 Stat. 3349; Pub. L. 114-92, div. A, title IV, § 402, Nov. 25, 2015, 129 Stat. 801;

Pub. L. 114-328, div. A, title IV, § 402, Dec. 23, 2016, 130 Stat. 2091; Pub. L. 115-91, div. A, title IV, § 402, Dec. 12, 2017, 131 Stat. 1368; Pub. L. 115-232, div. A, title IV, § 402, Aug. 13, 2018, 132 Stat. 1735; Pub. L. 116-92, div. A, title IV, § 402, Dec. 20, 2019, 133 Stat. 1334; Pub. L. 116-283, div. A, title IV, § 402(a), Jan. 1, 2021, 134 Stat. 3555; Pub. L. 117-81, div. A, title IV, § 402, Dec. 27, 2021, 135 Stat. 1673.)

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

2021—Pub. L. 116-283, § 402(a)(1), substituted “the National Defense Strategy” for “two major regional contingencies” in section catchline.

Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 116-283, § 402(a)(2), substituted “the national defense strategy of” for “a national defense strategy calling for” and struck out “to be able to successfully conduct two nearly simultaneous major regional contingencies” before period at end.

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 117-81, which directed amendment of subsec. (b) by adding pars. (1) to (5) and striking out former pars. (1) to (5), was executed by adding pars. (1) to (5) and striking out former pars. (1) to (4) to reflect the probable intent of Congress, as no par. (5) had previously been enacted. Prior to amendment, pars. (1) to (4) read as follows:

“(1) For the Army, 485,900.

“(2) For the Navy, 347,800.

“(3) For the Marine Corps, 181,200.

“(4) For the Air Force, 333,475.”

Pub. L. 116-283, § 402(a)(3), substituted “485,900” for “480,000” in par. (1), “347,800” for “340,500” in par. (2), “181,200” for “186,200” in par. (3), and “333,475” for “332,800” in par. (4).

Subsec. (e). Pub. L. 116-283, § 402(a)(4), inserted “or the Secretary concerned” after “Secretary of Defense” and substituted “vary a number specified in subsection (b) in accordance with section 115 of this title” for “reduce a number specified in subsection (b) by not more than 2 percent”.

2019—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 116-92 substituted “480,000” for “487,500” in par. (1), “340,500” for “335,400” in par. (2), “186,200” for “186,100” in par. (3), and “332,800” for “329,100” in par. (4).

2018—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 115-232 substituted “487,500” for “483,500” in par. (1), “335,400” for “327,900” in par. (2), “186,100” for “186,000” in par. (3), and “329,100” for “325,100” in par. (4).

2017—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 115-91 substituted “483,500” for “476,000” in par. (1), “327,900” for “323,900” in par. (2), “186,000” for “185,000” in par. (3), and “325,100” for “321,000” in par. (4).

2016—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 114-328 substituted “476,000” for “475,000” in par. (1), “323,900” for “329,200” in par. (2), “185,000” for “184,000” in par. (3), and “321,000” for “317,000” in par. (4).

2015—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 114-92, § 402(1), substituted “475,000” for “490,000” in par. (1), “329,200” for “323,600” in par. (2), “184,000” for “184,100” in par. (3), and “317,000” for “310,900” in par. (4).

Subsec. (e). Pub. L. 114-92, § 402(2), substituted “2 percent” for “0.5 percent”.

2014—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 113-291 substituted “490,000” for “510,000” in par. (1), “184,100” for “188,000” in par. (3), and “310,900” for “327,600” in par. (4).

2013—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 113-66 substituted “510,000” for “542,700” in par. (1), “323,600” for “322,700” in par. (2), “188,000” for “193,500” in par. (3), and “327,600” for “329,460” in par. (4).

Pub. L. 112-239, § 402(a), substituted “542,700” for “547,400” in par. (1), “322,700” for “325,700” in par. (2), “193,500” for “202,100” in par. (3), and “329,460” for “332,800” in par. (4).

Subsec. (e). Pub. L. 112-239, § 402(b), added subsec. (e).
2011—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 112-81 substituted “325,700” for “324,300” in par. (2) and “332,800” for “332,200” in par. (4).