

Staff. First, the Joint Staff would be placed specifically under the authority of the JCS Chairman rather than under the corporate Joint Chiefs of Staff. This change is the first of several similar changes in section 154 that are intended to ensure the clear management authority of the Chairman over the Joint Staff. The President's Blue Ribbon Commission on Defense Management recommended the same change in the following terms:

Current law should be changed to place the Joint Staff and the Organization of the Joint Chiefs of Staff under the exclusive direction of the Chairman, to perform such duties as he prescribes to support the JCS and to respond to the Secretary of Defense. (page 11)

The Committee believes that the Chairman must have the strong support of the Joint Staff if he is to carry out effectively his new duty as principal military adviser to the President, the National Security Council, and the Secretary of Defense. Currently, responsibility for the management and operation of the Joint Staff is diffused. Some matters may be administered exclusively by the Chairman (for example, selection of Joint Staff officers); other matters may be prescribed by either the Chairman or the JCS (for example, the duties of the Joint Staff); and yet other matters are subject to the direction of the corporate JCS (for example, the Chairman's management of the Joint Staff). Beginning in paragraph (1) of section 154(a), the Committee seeks to consolidate all these and other aspects of management authority in the Chairman.

The second significant change that would be made by paragraph (1) of section 154(a) is the specification that the Joint Staff shall assist the Chairman and the other JCS members (rather than the corporate JCS) in carrying out their responsibilities. Again, however, the Joint Staff is to provide this assistance subject to the authority, direction, and control of the Chairman.

This provision is intended to ensure that the members of the JCS other than the Chairman will be able to use the Joint Staff for assistance in performing their JCS duties. In fact, the Committee encourages the Service Chiefs to rely less on their Service staffs and more on the Joint Staff for support on joint matters. However, the Chairman must be able to manage the demands on the Joint Staff so that he can control the workload of his staff.

Third, paragraph (1) of section 154(a) would remove the statutory cap of 400 officers on the size of the Joint Staff. This arbitrary and out-of-date limitation would be replaced by a more comprehensive restriction in subsection (f) of section 154. The proposed restriction is described in the discussion of subsection (f).

Selection of a Joint Staff Director

Subsection (b) of section 154 would specify that the JCS Chairman, after consultation with the other JCS members and with the approval of the Secretary of Defense, may select a Director of the Joint Staff.

Two changes to current law would be made by this subsection. First, the Chairman would be authorized to select a Director *after* consultation with other JCS members rather than *in* consultation with other JCS members. The purpose of this change is to make it