

clear that the selection of a Director is to be made exclusively by the Chairman and not by the corporate JCS.

Second, the subsection would grant complete flexibility to the Chairman in deciding whether or not to select a Director. In broad terms, the Committee intends that the Chairman enjoy the management flexibility to organize the Joint Staff as he sees fit (within the constraints of the law and subject to the authority, direction, and control of the Secretary of Defense). In particular, the Chairman may not choose to select a Director or may choose to select one or more Directors of the Joint Staff. However many Joint Staff Directors the Chairman selects, he would be required to first consult with the other JCS members and to gain the approval of the Secretary of Defense.

Management of the Joint Staff

Subsection (c) of section 154 would specify that the JCS Chairman alone would manage the Joint Staff and its Director. The subsection would further provide that only the Chairman may prescribe the duties and staffing procedures of the Joint Staff.

The purpose of the changes made by this subsection is the same as for those made earlier: to clarify and consolidate the Chairman's authority to manage all aspects of the Joint Staff's operation. In particular, the Committee intends to authorize the Chairman to establish whatever staffing procedures would best enable the Joint Staff to assist most effectively the Chairman and the other JCS members in carrying out their responsibilities. The Committee believes that the staffing methods currently used to prepare issues for JCS consideration should be streamlined by reducing the excessive involvement of the four Service staffs in the work of the Joint Staff. The result would be more objective and timely staff assistance for the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Joint Staff Support for JCS Members

Subsection (d) of section 154 would clarify that the Joint Staff supports the Chairman and the other JCS members (instead of the corporate JCS) in discharging their assigned responsibilities. This conforming change is similar to the new language in paragraph (1) of section 154(a).

Extension of Joint Staff Tours of Duty

Subsection (e) of section 154 would authorize the Secretary of Defense to extend the tours of duty of Joint Staff officers beyond the statutory limit of 4 years.

In the Department of Defense Authorization Act, 1985 (Public Law 98-525), the Congress relaxed statutory restrictions on the tenure and reassignment of officers serving on the Joint Staff. In reducing from 3 to 2 years the length of time in which an officer may not be reassigned to the Joint Staff, the Congress authorized the Secretary of Defense to waive this restriction. However, it did not provide similar flexibility to the Secretary to extend the tours of duty of Joint Staff officers.

Occasionally, it would improve continuity and stability in an important function of the Joint Staff if the tour of duty of an officer could be extended beyond 4 years. Therefore, the Committee be-