

Defense. These two requirements are designed to force a reexamination of common supply and service agencies to ensure that they continue to provide the most effective, economical, or efficient arrangements.

SEC. 118. REDUCTION IN PERSONNEL ASSIGNED TO DEFENSE AGENCIES AND DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE FIELD ACTIVITIES

Section 118 of this bill, a free-standing provision of law, would require certain reductions in the total number of military and civilian personnel assigned to Defense Agencies and Department of Defense (DoD) Field Activities. Section 118 would require a total reduction of 9,947 personnel in the Defense Agencies and DoD Field Activities. Other provisions of this bill would require an additional reduction of 7,747 personnel assigned to management headquarters activities and management headquarters support activities in the Military Departments and unified and specified combatant commands. Given the size of these reductions, the Committee urges the Senate Committee on Governmental Affairs to review the need for the Secretary of Defense to have special authority to waive any applicable civil service laws and regulations necessary to carry out these reductions in the most efficient and orderly manner.

Subsection (a) of section 118 would require at least a 15-percent reduction in personnel in management headquarters activities or management headquarters support activities, as defined by subsection (g) of section 118 of this bill, by September 30, 1988. Subsection (a) would also provide that any reductions in such personnel greater than the required 15 percent may be applied toward the other personnel reductions required in the Defense Agencies and DoD Field Activities by subsection (b) of section 118. The Committee believes that too many people are assigned to management activities in these organizations and that the prescribed reductions would enhance economy and efficiency. To provide for orderly implementation, the Committee recommends that a period of more than 2 years be allowed before the limitation on assigned personnel would be effective.

Subsection (b) of section 118 would require at least a 10-percent reduction in non-management personnel assigned or detailed to permanent duty in the Defense Agencies and DoD Field Activities by September 30, 1988. The Committee believes that improved supervision and control of these common supply and service activities and a rigorous review of the scope of their responsibilities will permit a 10-percent personnel reduction without affecting essential operations.

Subsection (c) would prohibit the accomplishment of these reductions by recategorizing or redefining duties, functions, offices, or organizations. It is the Committee's intent that these personnel reductions be achieved through careful management review of personnel needs and not by the transfer of personnel performing the same functions to new or existing organizations that would not be affected by these reductions. The Committee does not intend, however, to preclude any internal reorganizations that would provide for the more efficient use of personnel.