

## SEC. 303. HEADQUARTERS, MARINE CORPS

Section 303 of this bill would amend chapter 515 of title 10 to establish the Headquarters, Marine Corps, in law and to specify its duties; to clarify the powers and duties of the Commandant and Assistant Commandant of the Marine Corps; and to strike sections 5203 and 5204 dealing with the detail of the Director of Personnel and the Quartermaster General, respectively.

Subsection (a) of section 301 of this bill would provide four new sections:

Sec. 5201. Headquarters, Marine Corps

Sec. 5202. Headquarters, Marine Corps: general duties

Sec. 5203. Commandant of the Marine Corps: appointment; term of office; powers and duties

Sec. 5204. Assistant Commandant of the Marine Corps: appointment; powers and duties; succession to duties of Commandant

Neither the Headquarters, Marine Corps, nor its general duties are established in law. Section 5201 would establish the headquarters in law, and section 5202 would prescribe its general duties. These two sections would be consistent with sections 3031 and 3032 relating to the Army Staff.

Subsection (b) of section 5201 would limit the Headquarters, Marine Corps, to not more than four Deputy Chiefs of Staff and to not more than three Assistant Chiefs of Staff. Currently, the number of such officers is not limited. At present, the Headquarters, Marine Corps, has eight Deputy Chiefs of Staff.

Subsection (d) of section 5201 would place personnel limitations on the Headquarters, Marine Corps. Paragraph (1) would require a 15-percent reduction by September 30, 1988 in the number of military and civilian personnel assigned or detailed to permanent duty in the Headquarters, Marine Corps. The Committee believes that this reduction would be made possible by the elimination of duplication between the Headquarters, Marine Corps, and the Office of the Secretary of the Navy and between the Headquarters, Marine Corps, and the Joint Staff. Paragraph (2) would provide that not more than 325 Marine Corps and Navy officers may be assigned or detailed to permanent duty in the Headquarters, Marine Corps, beginning on September 30, 1988. Unlike the Army and Air Force, there are presently no limitations on the number of military officers assigned to the top management headquarters of the Department of the Navy. The 325-officer limitation would enable 75 percent (about the current percentage) of the positions in the Headquarters, Marine Corps, to be filled with military officers.

Section 5203 concerning the Commandant of the Marine Corps and section 5204 concerning the Assistant Commandant would specify the appointment, powers and duties of these officers, and the succession to the duties of the Commandant so that they are consistent with those provided for other Service Chiefs and Vice Chiefs of Staff.

The current section 5203 concerning the Director of Personnel and the current section 5204 dealing with the Quartermaster General would be struck from the law. The Committee believes that, if these positions are required, they do not need to be specified in law.