

## CHAIN OF COMMAND

In a number of sections of this bill, the newly elevated and independent Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff is put into the loop of the national military chain of command, which runs to the commanders of the unified and specified combatant commands. There are serious and compelling arguments regarding the managerial aspect of resource allocation for doing this. However, for many of the reasons stated above regarding the importance of civilian control of the military, I am wary of having the JCS Chairman directly in this loop. This would be particularly disturbing if the Chairman becomes the political person that I believe he would if the section which elevates him to a permanent seat on the NSC remains in the bill.

### TERM OF CHAIRMAN AND REMOVAL OF CAP ON THE JCS STAFF

The bill would have the term of the Chairman increased to four years. Again, as a single provision this may make great managerial sense, but taken in the aggregate with the other increased powers, I am not in favor of this provision.

The bill also removes the cap on the current level of 400 officers on the staff of the OJCS. Without this cap the staff is likely to grow exponentially. This does not make fiscal, managerial or military sense to me. I agree with those in the Pentagon who state that the JCS staff works very efficiently at the current level of 400 officers.

## SUMMARY

### PURPOSE

The purpose of H.R. 3622 is to refine the role of the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff by assigning him certain responsibilities currently assigned the Joint Chiefs of Staff collectively.

### FISCAL DATA

The Congressional Budget Office expects no significant additional costs if the bill is enacted.

### DEPARTMENTAL POSITION

The Department of Defense recommends postponing any legislation relating to Department of Defense reorganization until the Secretary of Defense has had an opportunity to evaluate the report of the Blue Ribbon Commission on Defense Management that is to be submitted in June 1986 as well as other relevant documents. Until the evaluation is complete the Department has stated that its "position on the issues at hand will be consistent with those expressed by Secretary Weinberger over the past few years." The committee considers this to mean that the Department of Defense opposes, or finds unnecessary, the provisions of H.R. 3622.