

(2) by inserting “, and the Commandant of the Marine Corps” after “Air Force”; and

(3) by inserting “and the Vice Chairman” after “Chairman”.

SEC. 203. PARTICIPATION IN NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

Section 101 of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 402) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(e) The Chairman (or in his absence the Vice Chairman) of the Joint Chiefs of Staff may, in his role as principal military adviser to the National Security Council and subject to the direction of the President, attend and participate in meetings of the National Security Council.”.

SEC. 204. TRANSITION

(a) **PREPAREDNESS EVALUATION SYSTEM.**—The uniform system of evaluating the preparedness of each unified and specified combatant command required to be established by paragraph (3)(D) of section 153(a) of title 10, United States Code, as added by section 201 of this Act, shall be established not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act. 10 USC 153 note.

(b) **DATE FOR FIRST REPORT.**—The first report under section 153(b) of title 10, United States Code, as added by section 201 of this Act, shall be submitted by the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff not later than two years after the date of the enactment of this Act. 10 USC 153 note.

(c) **WAIVER OF QUALIFICATIONS FOR APPOINTMENT AS VICE CHAIRMAN OF JCS.**—(1) The President may waive, as provided in paragraph (2), the requirements provided for in section 154(b) of title 10, United States Code (as added by section 201 of this Act), relating to requirements for appointment of an officer as Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. 10 USC 154 note.

(2) In exercising such waiver authority, the President may—
(A) waive the requirement that the officer have the joint specialty;

(B) waive the requirement under section 664 of such title (as added by section 401 of this Act) for the length of a joint duty assignment if the officer has served in such an assignment for not less than two years; and

(C) consider as a joint duty assignment any tour of duty served by the officer as a general or flag officer before the date of the enactment of this Act (or being served on the date of the enactment of this Act) that was considered to be a joint duty assignment or a joint equivalent assignment under regulations in effect at the time the assignment began.

(3)(A) A waiver under paragraph (2)(A) may not be made more than two years after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(B) A waiver under paragraph (2)(B) or (2)(C) may not be made more than four years after the date of the enactment of this Act.

PART B—COMBATANT COMMANDS

SEC. 211. ESTABLISHMENT OF COMBATANT COMMANDS AND AUTHORITY OF COMMANDERS

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Part I of subtitle A is amended by inserting after chapter 5 the following new chapter: 10 USC 101 et seq.