

required to review the combat support plans of each support agency and to take steps, in accordance with guidelines established by the Secretary of Defense, to provide for any revisions of those plans that the chairman considered appropriate. The chairman would also be required to provide for the participation of the combat support agencies in joint training exercises, to assess their performance in those exercises, and in accordance with guidelines established by the Secretary of Defense, to provide for any change the chairman considered appropriate to improve combat support agency performance. Finally, the chairman would be required to develop a uniform readiness reporting system for combat support agencies.

The legislation would require that the director of a combat support agency, upon the request of the commander of a unified or specified combatant command, assign a representative of the agency to the headquarters of that command.

TITLE III—JOINT OFFICER PERSONNEL POLICY

Title III would reform the joint officer personnel management system. It would create a joint specialty career category with incentives to attract outstanding officers. It would also establish legal safeguards to protect the careers (promotions and assignments) of officers serving in joint billets.

The joint specialty occupational category would be comprised of officers who are particularly trained in and oriented toward the integrated employment of land, sea, and air forces including national military strategy, long-range contingency planning, and command and control of combat operations under unified command. The number of joint officer specialists would be determined by the Secretary of Defense but would be required to be sufficient to fill approximately one-half of all joint duty billets.

Joint specialists would be nominated by the Secretary of the respective military department. They would be selected by the Secretary of Defense for the specialty after completion of joint schooling and a successful joint tour.

The Secretary of Defense, with the advice of the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, would be required to establish career guidelines for the joint specialty and to establish procedures for overseeing the careers of all officers who serve in joint positions. The Secretary would be required to ensure that the capabilities of the Joint Staff are sufficient to assist in monitoring the careers of officers who have served in joint assignments and to advise the chairman on joint personnel management subjects.

To increase the experience level in joint assignments, the Secretary of Defense would also be required to designate not fewer than 1,000 joint duty positions that would be filled by officers who held the joint specialty.

The legislation would also provide incentives for outstanding officers to seek joint assignments. The Secretary of Defense would be required to apply the following criteria, where practicable, as a matter of policy: