

Joint specialty and Joint Staff officers, as a group, would be promoted at the same rate as officers serving on the highly selective military headquarters staffs.

Other officers in joint positions would be promoted at a rate specified by the Secretary of Defense between the service-wide rate and the rate of promotion for military headquarters staffs.

Service selection boards.—An officer, designated by the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, serving in a joint assignment would sit as a member of each service board that considered officers who served in joint duty assignments.

Chairman review of selection board results.—The chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff would review the list of recommended promotees of each selection board and could recommend names to be added to the list. His recommendations would go to the Secretary of Defense unless the chairman and the service Secretary could resolve differences.

Redesignation of joint specialty as a special experience identifier

The original version of this bill, before it was amended by the committee, would have established “a secondary occupational specialty . . . to be known as the ‘Joint Subspecialty’”. The Department of Defense objected to this terminology, proposing instead that the legislation require establishment of

a joint subspecialty identifier (Special Experience Identifier [SEI]) for officers. . . . Officers will have this identifier included in their personnel records (in addition to their major occupational specialty

The committee does not object to the use of the “SEI” or any other designation by the Department of Defense with regard to the joint specialty. Consequently, subsection 661(a) of the new chapter 38 would specify that the Secretary of Defense establish “an occupational category” for officers who are trained in joint matters. The paragraph concludes with the following two sentences:

Officers with that occupational category shall be identified or designated in such manner as the Secretary of Defense directs. For purposes of this chapter, that category is referred to as the “Joint Specialty”.

These sentences are intended to clarify that the Department of Defense is authorized to rename for its own purposes what is referred to in Title III of this bill as the Joint Specialty.

Review of promotion lists by the chairman of the joint chiefs of staff

Section 302 of this bill would amend section 618 of title 10 to require that the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff review the promotion lists recommended by service selection boards. Based upon his review, the chairman would be authorized to recommend officers for promotion who “have served or are serving in joint duty assignments” and who “were considered by the Board and not recommended for promotion.”

In light of testimony indicating that the services have intimidated officers serving in joint assignments, the committee considers