Union Calendar No. 372 H.R.4883

107th CONGRESS 2d Session

[Report No. 107-621]

To reauthorize the Hydrographic Services Improvement Act of 1998, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 6, 2002

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska (for himself, Mr. HANSEN, Mr. GILCHREST, and Mr. SAXTON) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Resources

JULY 26, 2002

Reported with an amendment, committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in italic]

[For text of introduced bill, see copy of bill as introduced on June 6, 2002]

A BILL

To reauthorize the Hydrographic Services Improvement Act of 1998, and for other purposes.

1 Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-

2 tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

3 SECTION 1. TABLE OF CONTENTS.

4 The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Table of contents.

TITLE I-NOAA HYDROGRAPHIC SERVICES IMPROVEMENT

- Sec. 101. Short title; references.
- Sec. 102. Definitions.
- Sec. 103. Functions of Administrator.
- Sec. 104. Quality assurance program.
- Sec. 105. Hydrographic Services Review Panel.
- Sec. 106. Plan regarding photogrammetry and remote sensing.
- Sec. 107. Authorization of appropriations.

TITLE II—NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION COMMISSIONED OFFICER CORPS

Sec. 201. Short title.

SUBTITLE A—GENERAL PROVISIONS

- Sec. 211. Commissioned officer corps.
- Sec. 212. Definitions.
- Sec. 213. Authorized number on the active list.
- Sec. 214. Strength and distribution in grade.
- Sec. 215. Authorized number for fiscal years 2003 through 2008.

Subtitle B—Appointment and Promotion of Officers

- Sec. 221. Original appointments.
- Sec. 222. Personnel boards.
- Sec. 223. Promotion of ensigns to grade of lieutenant (junior grade).
- Sec. 224. Promotion by selection to permanent grades above lieutenant (junior grade).
- Sec. 225. Length of service for promotion purposes.
- Sec. 226. Appointments and promotions to permanent grades.
- Sec. 227. General qualification of officers for promotion to higher permanent grade.
- Sec. 228. Positions of importance and responsibility.
- Sec. 229. Temporary appointments and promotions generally.
- Sec. 230. Temporary appointment or advancement of commissioned officers in time of war or national emergency.
- Sec. 231. Pay and allowances; date of acceptance of promotion.
- Sec. 232. Service credit as deck officer or junior engineer for promotion purposes.
- Sec. 233. Suspension during war or emergency.

SUBTITLE C-SEPARATION AND RETIREMENT OF OFFICERS

- Sec. 241. Involuntary retirement or separation.
- Sec. 242. Separation pay.
- Sec. 243. Mandatory retirement for age.
- Sec. 244. Retirement for length of service.
- Sec. 245. Computation of retired pay.
- Sec. 246. Retired grade and retired pay.
- Sec. 247. Retired rank and pay held pursuant to other laws unaffected.
- Sec. 248. Continuation on active duty; deferral of retirement.
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SUBTITLE D-Service of Officers With the Military Departments

- Sec. 251. Cooperation with and transfer to military departments.
- Sec. 252. Relative rank of officers when serving with Army, Navy, or Air Force.
- Sec. 253. Rules and regulations when cooperating with military departments.

SUBTITLE E—RIGHTS AND BENEFITS

- Sec. 261. Applicability of certain provisions of title 10, United States Code.
- Sec. 262. Eligibility for veterans benefits and other rights, privileges, immunities, and benefits under certain provisions of law.
- Sec. 263. Medical and dental care.
- Sec. 264. Commissary privileges.
- Sec. 265. Authority to use appropriated funds for transportation and reimbursement of certain items.
- Sec. 266. Presentation of United States flag upon retirement.

Subtitle F—Repeals and Conforming Amendments

Sec. 271. Repeals.

Sec. 272. Conforming amendments.

TITLE I—NOAA HYDROGRAPHIC SERVICES IMPROVEMENT

3 SEC. 101. SHORT TITLE; REFERENCES.

4 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This title may be cited as the
5 "Hydrographic Services Improvement Act Amendments of
6 2002".

7 (b) REFERENCES.—Except as otherwise expressly pro8 vided, whenever in this title an amendment or repeal is ex9 pressed in terms of an amendment to, or repeal of, a section
10 or other provision, the reference shall be considered to be
11 made to a section or other provision of the Hydrographic
12 Services Improvement Act of 1998 (33 U.S.C. 892 et seq.).

13 SEC. 102. DEFINITIONS.

14 Section 302 (33 U.S.C. 892) is amended—

15 (1) in paragraph (3) by inserting ", geospatial,
16 or geomagnetic" after "geodetic"; and

(2) in paragraph (4) by inserting "geospatial,
 geomagnetic," after "geodetic,".

3 SEC. 103. FUNCTIONS OF ADMINISTRATOR.

4 (a) HYDROGRAPHIC MONITORING SYSTEMS.—Section
5 303(b)(4) (33 U.S.C. 892a(b)(4)) is amended to read as fol6 lows:

7 "(4) shall, subject to the availability of appro8 priations, design, install, maintain, and operate real9 time hydrographic monitoring systems to enhance
10 navigation safety and efficiency.".

(b) CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT OF COASTAL
12 AND OCEAN RESOURCES.—Section 303 (33 U.S.C. 892a)
13 is further amended by adding at the end the following:

14 "(c) CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT OF COASTAL 15 AND OCEAN RESOURCES.—Where appropriate and to the 16 extent that it does not detract from the promotion of safe 17 and efficient navigation, the Secretary may use hydro-18 graphic data and services to support the conservation and 19 management of coastal and ocean resources.".

20 SEC. 104. QUALITY ASSURANCE PROGRAM.

21 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 304(b)(1) (33 U.S.C.
22 892b(b)(1)) is amended to read as follows:

- 23 "(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator—
- 24 "(A) by not later than 2 years after the date
- 25 of enactment of the Hydrographic Services Im-

1	provement Act Amendments of 2002, shall, sub-
2	ject to the availability of appropriations, develop
3	and implement a quality assurance program
4	that is equally available to all applicants, under
5	which the Administrator may certify hydro-
6	graphic products that satisfy the standards pro-
7	mulgated by the Administrator under section
8	303(a)(3) of this Act;
9	((B) may authorize the use of the emblem
10	or any trademark of the Administration on a
11	hydrographic product certified under subpara-
12	graph (A); and
13	``(C) may charge a fee for such certification
14	and use.".
15	(b) Acceptance and Recognition of Certifi-
16	CATIONS.—Section 304(b) (33 U.S.C. 892b(b)) is amended
17	by adding at the end the following:
18	"(3) Acceptance and recognition of cer-
19	TIFICATIONS.—The Administrator shall, to the max-
20	imum extent practicable, assure that any inter-
21	national organizations and agreements to which the
22	United States is a party which affect hydrographic
23	products and nautical charts accept or recognize, re-
24	spectively, hydrographic products certified by the Ad-
25	ministrator under this subsection.".

(c) IMPLEMENTATION OF EXECUTIVE ORDER AND
 OMB CIRCULAR.—Section 304 (33 U.S.C. 892b) is amend adding at the end the following:

4 "(f) ANNUAL STUDY AND REPORT REGARDING IMPLE-5 MENTATION OF EXECUTIVE ORDER AND OMB CIRCULAR.— 6 "(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall an-7 nually conduct a study of, and report to the panel es-8 tablished under section 305 regarding, steps taken to 9 comply with section 3(d) of Executive Order 12906 10 and Office of Management and Budget Circular A-16 11 with respect to the collection and production of new 12 hydrographic data and products by the Administra-13 tion.

14 "(2) CONSULTATION.—In carrying out the study
15 and report, the Administrator shall consult with the
16 Federal Geographic Data Committee.".

17 SEC. 105. HYDROGRAPHIC SERVICES REVIEW PANEL.

18 Section 305 (33 U.S.C. 892c) is amended to read as19 follows:

20 "SEC. 305. HYDROGRAPHIC SERVICES REVIEW PANEL.

21 "(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—No later than 1 year after the
22 date of enactment of the Hydrographic Services Improve23 ment Act Amendments of 2002, the Secretary shall establish
24 the Hydrographic Services Review Panel.
25 "(b) DUTIES.—

1	"(1) IN GENERAL.—The panel shall advise the
2	Administrator on matters related to the responsibil-
3	ities and authorities set forth in section 303 of this
4	Act and such other appropriate matters as the Ad-
5	ministrator refers to the panel for review and advice.
6	"(2) Administrative resources.—The Admin-
7	istrator shall make available to the panel such infor-
8	mation, personnel, and administrative services and
9	assistance as it may reasonably require to carry out
10	its duties.
11	"(c) Membership.—
12	"(1) IN GENERAL.—
13	"(A) The panel shall consist of 15 voting
14	members who shall be appointed by the Adminis-
15	trator. The Director of the Joint Hydrographic
16	Institute and no more than 2 employees of the
17	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administra-
18	tion appointed by the Administrator shall serve
19	as nonvoting members of the panel. The voting
20	members of the panel shall be individuals who,
21	by reason of knowledge, experience, or training,
22	are especially qualified in one or more of the dis-
23	ciplines and fields relating to hydrographic sur-
24	veying, tide, current geodetic and geospatial
25	measurement, marine transportation, port ad-

1	ministration, vessel pilotage, and coastal and
2	fishery management.
3	"(B) An individual may not be appointed
4	as a voting member of the panel if the individual
5	is a full-time officer or employee of the United
6	States.
7	"(C) Any voting member of the panel who
8	is an applicant for, or beneficiary (as deter-
9	mined by the Secretary) of, any assistance under
10	this Act shall disclose to the panel that relation-
11	ship, and may not vote on any matter per-
12	taining to that assistance.
13	"(2) TERMS.—
14	"(A) The term of office of a voting member
15	of the panel shall be 4 years, except that of the
16	original appointees, five shall be appointed for a
17	term of 2 years, five shall be appointed for a
18	term of 3 years, and five shall be appointed for
19	a term of 4 years, as specified by the Adminis-
20	trator at the time of appointment.
21	"(B) Any individual appointed to a partial
22	or full term may be reappointed for one addi-
23	tional full term. A voting member may serve
24	after the date of the expiration of the term of of-

1	fice for which appointed until his or her suc-
2	cessor has taken office.
3	"(3) Nominations.—At least once each year, the
4	Secretary shall publish a notice in the Federal Reg-
5	ister soliciting nominations for membership on the
6	panel.
7	"(4) Chairman and vice chairman.—
8	"(A) The panel shall select one voting mem-
9	ber to serve as the Chairman and another voting
10	member to serve as the Vice Chairman.
11	"(B) The Vice Chairman shall act as Chair-
12	man in the absence or incapacity of the Chair-
13	man.
14	"(d) Compensation.—Voting members of the panel
15	shall—
16	"(1) receive compensation at a rate established
17	by the Secretary, not to exceed the maximum daily
18	rate payable under section 5376 of title 5, United
19	States Code, when actually engaged in the perform-
20	ance of duties for such panel; and
21	"(2) be reimbursed for actual and reasonable ex-
22	penses incurred in the performance of such duties.
23	"(e) MEETINGS.—The panel shall meet on a biannual
24	basis and, at any other time, at the call of the Chairman

or upon the request of a majority of the voting members
 or of the Secretary.

3 "(f) POWERS.—The panel may exercise such powers as
4 are reasonably necessary in order to carry out its duties
5 under subsection (b).".

6 SEC. 106. PLAN REGARDING PHOTOGRAMMETRY AND RE7 MOTE SENSING.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 6 months after the 8 9 date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator of the Na-10 tional Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration shall submit to the Congress a plan for increasing, consistent with 11 12 this title, contracting with the private sector for photo-13 grammetric, remote sensing, and other geospatial reference services related to hydrographic data acquisition or hydro-14 15 graphic services activities performed by the National Ocean Service. In preparing the plan, the Administrator shall con-16 sult with private sector entities knowledgeable in photo-17 grammetry and remote sensing. 18

(b) CONTENTS.—The plan shall include the following:
(1) An assessment of which of the photogrammetric, remote sensing, and other geospatial reference services related to hydrographic data acquisition or hydrographic services activities performed by
the National Ocean Service can be performed adequately by private-sector entities.

1	(2) An evaluation of the relative cost-effectiveness
2	of the Federal Government and private-sector entities
3	in performing those activities.
4	(3) A strategy for enhancing and improving the
5	acquisition and contract management capabilities of
6	the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administra-
7	tion to assist in the utilization of private sector enti-
8	ties for photogrammetric, remote sensing and other
9	geospatial reference services related to hydrographic
10	data acquisition or hydrographic services activities
11	performed by the National Ocean Service,
12	including—
13	(A) the transfer and retraining of personnel
14	to become contracting officer technical represent-
15	atives;
16	(B) education in the use of contracting pro-
17	cedures in accordance with section $303(b)(3)$ of
18	the Hydrographic Services Improvement Act of
19	1998, as amended by this Act; and
20	(C) the utilization of training, education,
21	and acquisition and contract management capa-
22	bilities of other Federal agencies that are expert
23	and experienced in contracting for such services.

1	SEC. 107. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.
2	Section 306 (33 U.S.C. 892d) is amended to read as
3	follows:
4	"SEC. 306. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.
5	"There are authorized to be appropriated to the Ad-
6	ministrator the following:
7	"(1) To carry out nautical mapping and chart-
8	ing functions under sections 303 and 304 of this Act,
9	except for conducting hydrographic surveys—
10	"(A) \$50,000,000 for fiscal year 2003;
11	"(B) \$55,000,000 for fiscal year 2004;
12	"(C) \$60,000,000 for fiscal year 2005;
13	"(D) \$65,000,000 for fiscal year 2006; and
14	"(E) \$70,000,000 for fiscal year 2007.
15	"(2) To contract for hydrographic surveys under
16	section 303(b)(1), including the leasing or time char-
17	tering of vessels—
18	"(A) \$40,000,000 for fiscal year 2003;
19	"(B) \$42,500,000 for fiscal year 2004;
20	"(C) \$45,000,000 for fiscal year 2005;
21	"(D) \$47,500,000 for fiscal year 2006; and
22	"(E) \$50,000,000 for fiscal year 2007.
23	"(3) To carry out geodetic functions under this
24	title—
25	"(A) \$27,500,000 for fiscal year 2003;
26	"(B) \$30,000,000 for fiscal year 2004;

	10
1	"(C) \$32,500,000 for fiscal year 2005;
2	"(D) \$35,000,000 for fiscal year 2006; and
3	"(E) \$35,500,000 for fiscal year 2007.
4	"(4) To carry out tide and current measurement
5	functions under this title—
6	"(A) \$25,000,000 for fiscal year 2003;
7	"(B) \$27,500,000 for fiscal year 2004;
8	"(C) \$30,000,000 for fiscal year 2005;
9	"(D) \$32,500,000 for fiscal year 2006; and
10	"(E) \$35,000,000 for fiscal year 2007.
11	"(5) To carry out activities authorized under
12	this title that enhance homeland security, including
13	electronic navigation charts, hydrographic surveys,
14	real time tide and current measurements, and geo-
15	detic functions, in addition to other amounts author-
16	ized by this section, \$50,000,000.".
17	TITLE II—NATIONAL OCEANIC
18	AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINIS-
19	TRATION COMMISSIONED OF-
20	FICER CORPS
21	SEC. 201. SHORT TITLE.
22	This title may be cited as the "National Oceanic and
23	Atmospheric Administration Commissioned Officer Corps
<u> </u>	· · · · ·

24 Act of 2002".

1 Subtitle A—General Provisions

2 SEC. 211. COMMISSIONED OFFICER CORPS.

3 There shall be in the National Oceanic and Atmos4 pheric Administration a commissioned officer corps.

5 SEC. 212. DEFINITIONS.

6 (a) APPLICABILITY OF DEFINITIONS IN TITLE 10,
7 UNITED STATES CODE.—Except as provided in subsection
8 (b), the definitions provided in section 101 of title 10,
9 United States Code, apply to the provisions of this title.
10 (b) ADDITIONAL DEFINITIONS.—In this title:

(1) ACTIVE DUTY.—The term "active duty"
means full-time duty in the active service of a uniformed service.

(2) GRADE.—The term "grade" means a step or
degree, in a graduated scale of office or rank, that is
established and designated as a grade by law or regulation.

18 (3) OFFICER.—The term "officer" means an offi19 cer of the commissioned corps.

20 (4) FLAG OFFICER.—The term "flag officer"
21 means an officer serving in, or having the grade of,
22 vice admiral, rear admiral, or rear admiral (lower
23 half).

24 (5) SECRETARY.—The term "Secretary" means
25 the Secretary of Commerce.

(6) ADMINISTRATION.—The term "Administra tion" means the National Oceanic and Atmospheric
 Administration.

4 SEC. 213. AUTHORIZED NUMBER ON THE ACTIVE LIST.

5 (a) ANNUAL STRENGTH ON ACTIVE LIST.—The annual
6 strength of the commissioned corps in officers on the lineal
7 list of active duty officers of the corps shall be prescribed
8 by law.

9 (b) LINEAL LIST.—The Secretary shall maintain a
10 list, known as the 'lineal list', of officers on active duty.
11 Officers shall be carried on the lineal list by grade and,
12 within grade, by seniority in grade.

13 SEC. 214. STRENGTH AND DISTRIBUTION IN GRADE.

(a) RELATIVE RANK; PROPORTION.—Of the total authorized number of officers on the lineal list of the commissioned corps, there are authorized numbers in permanent
grade, in relative rank with officers of the Navy, in proportions as follows:

19 (1) 8 in the grade of captain.

- 20 (2) 14 in the grade of commander.
- 21 (3) 19 in the grade of lieutenant commander.
- 22 (4) 23 in the grade of lieutenant.

23 (5) 18 in the grade of lieutenant (junior grade).

- 24 (6) 18 in the grade of ensign.
- 25 (b) Computation of Number in Grade.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), 2 whenever a final fraction occurs in computing the authorized number of officers in a grade, the nearest 3 4 whole number shall be taken, and if the fraction is one-half the next higher whole number shall be taken. 5 6 (2) LIMITATION ON INCREASE IN TOTAL NUM-7 BER.—The total number of officers on the lineal list 8 authorized by law may not be increased as the result 9 of the computations prescribed in this section, and if 10 necessary the number of officers in the lowest grade 11 shall be reduced accordingly. 12 (c) PRESERVATION OF GRADE AND PAY, ETC.—No offi-

13 cer may be reduced in grade or pay or separated from the
14 commissioned corps as the result of a computation made
15 to determine the authorized number of officers in the var16 ious grades.

17 (d) FILLING OF VACANCIES; ADDITIONAL NUMBERS.—
18 Nothing in this section may be construed as requiring the
19 filling of any vacancy or as prohibiting additional numbers
20 in any grade to compensate for vacancies existing in higher
21 grades.

(e) TEMPORARY INCREASE IN NUMBERS.—The total
number of officers authorized by law to be on the lineal list
during a fiscal year may be temporarily exceeded so long

as the average number on that list during that fiscal year
 does not exceed the authorized number.

3 SEC. 215. AUTHORIZED NUMBER FOR FISCAL YEARS 2003 4 THROUGH 2008.

5 There are authorized to be not less than 264 and not
6 more than 299 officers on the lineal list of the commissioned
7 corps of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administra8 tion for each of fiscal years 2003 through 2008.

9 Subtitle B—Appointment and 10 Promotion of Officers

11 SEC. 221. ORIGINAL APPOINTMENTS.

12 (a) IN GENERAL.—

13 (1) GRADES.—Original appointments may be
14 made in the grades of ensign, lieutenant (junior
15 grade), and lieutenant.

16 (2) QUALIFICATIONS.—Under regulations pre17 scribed by the Secretary, such an appointment may
18 be given only to a person who—

19(A) meets the qualification requirements20specified in paragraphs (1) through (4) of section2122

21 532(a) of title 10, United States Code; and

(B) has such other special qualifications as
the Secretary may prescribe by regulation.

24 (3) EXAMINATION.—A person may be given such
25 an appointment only after passage of a mental and

18

3 (4) REVOCATION OF COMMISSION OF OFFICERS
4 FOUND NOT QUALIFIED.—The President may revoke
5 the commission of any officer appointed under this
6 section during the officer's first three years of service
7 if the officer is found not qualified for the service.
8 Any such revocation shall be made under regulations
9 prescribed by the President.

10 (b) LINEAL LIST.—Each person appointed under this 11 section shall be placed on the lineal list in a position com-12 mensurate with that person's age, education, and experi-13 ence, in accordance with regulations prescribed by the Sec-14 retary.

15 (c) SERVICE CREDIT UPON ORIGINAL APPOINTMENT
16 IN GRADE ABOVE ENSIGN.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—For the purposes of basic pay,
a person appointed under this section in the grade of
lieutenant shall be credited as having, on the date of
that appointment, three years of service, and a person
appointed under this section in the grade of lieutenant (junior grade) shall be credited as having, as of
the date of that appointment, 1¹/₂ years of service.

24 (2) HIGHER CREDIT UNDER OTHER LAW.—If a
25 person appointed under this section is entitled to

credit for the purpose of basic pay under any other
 provision of law that would exceed the amount of
 credit authorized by paragraph (1), that person shall
 be credited with that amount of service in lieu of the
 credit authorized by paragraph (1).

6 SEC. 222. PERSONNEL BOARDS.

7 (a) CONVENING.—At least once a year and at such
8 other times as the Secretary determines necessary, the Sec9 retary shall convene a personnel board. A personnel board
10 shall consist of not less than five officers on the lineal list
11 in the permanent grade of commander or above.

12 (b) DUTIES.—Each personnel board shall—

13 (1) recommend to the Secretary such changes in
14 the lineal list as the board may determine; and

15 (2) make selections and recommendations to the 16 Secretary and President for the appointment, pro-17 motion, separation, continuation, and retirement of 18 officers as prescribed in this subtitle and subtitle C. 19 (c) ACTION ON RECOMMENDATIONS NOT ACCEPT-ABLE.—In a case in which any recommendation by a board 20 21 convened under subsection (a) is not accepted by the Sec-22 retary or the President, the board shall make such further 23 recommendations as are acceptable.

SEC. 223. PROMOTION OF ENSIGNS TO GRADE OF LIEUTEN ANT (JUNIOR GRADE).

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—An officer in the permanent grade
4 of ensign shall be promoted to and appointed in the grade
5 of lieutenant (junior grade) upon completion of three years
6 of service. The authorized number of officers in the grade
7 of lieutenant (junior grade) shall be temporarily increased
8 as necessary to authorize such appointment.

9 (b) SEPARATION OF ENSIGNS FOUND NOT FULLY 10 QUALIFIED.—If an officer in the permanent grade of ensign 11 is at any time found not fully qualified, the officer's com-12 mission shall be revoked and the officer shall be separated 13 from the commissioned service.

14 SEC. 224. PROMOTION BY SELECTION TO PERMANENT15GRADES ABOVE LIEUTENANT (JUNIOR16GRADE).

17 Promotion to fill vacancies in each permanent grade
18 above the grade of lieutenant (junior grade) shall be made
19 by selection from the next lower grade upon recommenda20 tion of the personnel board.

21 SEC. 225. LENGTH OF SERVICE FOR PROMOTION PUR22 POSES.

(a) GENERAL RULE.—Each officer shall be assumed
to have, for promotion purposes, at least the same length
of service as any other officer below that officer on the lineal
list.

(b) EXCEPTION.—Notwithstanding subsection (a), an
 officer who has lost numbers shall be assumed to have, for
 promotion purposes, no greater service than the officer next
 above such officer in such officer's new position on the lineal
 list.

6 SEC. 226. APPOINTMENTS AND PROMOTIONS TO PERMA7 NENT GRADES.

8 Appointments in and promotions to all permanent
9 grades shall be made by the President, by and with the ad10 vice and consent of the Senate.

SEC. 227. GENERAL QUALIFICATION OF OFFICERS FOR PRO MOTION TO HIGHER PERMANENT GRADE.

No officer may be promoted to a higher permanent
grade on the active list until the officer has passed a satisfactory mental and physical examination in accordance
with regulations prescribed by the Secretary.

17 SEC. 228. POSITIONS OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSI18 BILITY.

(a) DESIGNATION OF POSITIONS.—The Secretary may
designate positions in the Administration as being positions
of importance and responsibility for which it is appropriate
that officers of the Administration, if serving in those positions, serve in the grade of vice admiral, rear admiral, or
rear admiral (lower half), as designated by the Secretary
for each position.

(b) ASSIGNMENT OF OFFICERS TO DESIGNATED POSI TIONS.—The Secretary may assign officers to positions des ignated under subsection (a).

4 (c) FLEET OVERSIGHT AND ADMINISTRATION OF OFFI-5 CER CORPS.—The Secretary shall designate one position under this section which shall be responsible for oversight 6 7 of the operation of the vessel fleet and for the administration 8 of the commissioned officer corps. That position shall be 9 filled by an officer on the lineal list serving in or above the grade of rear admiral (lower half). For the specific pur-10 pose of administering the commissioned officer corps, that 11 position shall carry the title of Director of the National Oce-12 anic and Atmospheric Administration Commissioned Offi-13 14 cer Corps.

15 (d) GRADE.—

16 (1) TEMPORARY APPOINTMENT TO GRADE DES-17 IGNATED FOR POSITION.—An officer assigned to a po-18 sition under this section while so serving has the 19 grade designated for that position, if appointed to 20 that grade by the President, by and with the advice 21 and consent of the Senate.

(2) REVERSION TO PERMANENT GRADE.—An officer who has served in a grade above captain, upon
termination of the officer's assignment to the position
for which that appointment was made, shall, unless

1	appointed or assigned to another position for which
2	a higher grade is designated, revert to the grade and
3	number the officer would have occupied but for serv-
4	ing in a grade above that of captain. In such a case,
5	the officer shall be an extra number in that grade.
6	(e) Number of Officers Appointed.—
7	(1) Overall limit.—The total number of offi-
8	cers serving on active duty at any one time in the
9	grade of rear admiral (lower half) or above may not
10	exceed four.
11	(2) LIMIT BY GRADE.—The number of officers
12	serving on active duty under appointments under this
13	section may not exceed—
14	(A) one in the grade of vice admiral;
15	(B) two in the grade of rear admiral; and
16	(C) two in the grade of rear admiral (lower
17	half).
18	(f) PAY AND ALLOWANCES.—An officer appointed to
19	a grade under this section, while serving in that grade, shall
20	have the pay and allowances of the grade to which ap-
21	pointed.
22	(g) EFFECT OF APPOINTMENT.—An appointment of an
23	officer under this section—
24	(1) does not vacate the permanent grade held by
25	the officer; and

4 (a) ENSIGN.—Temporary appointments in the grade
5 of ensign may be made by the President alone. Each such
6 temporary appointment terminates at the close of the next
7 regular session of the Congress unless the Senate sooner
8 gives its advice and consent to the appointment.

9 (b) LIEUTENANT (JUNIOR GRADE).—Officers in the 10 permanent grade of ensign may be temporarily promoted 11 to and appointed in the grade of lieutenant (junior grade) 12 by the President alone whenever vacancies exist in higher 13 grades.

(c) ANY ONE GRADE.—When determined by the Secretary to be in the best interest of the service, officers in
any permanent grade may be temporarily promoted one
grade by the President alone. Any such temporary promotion terminates upon the transfer of the officer to a new
assignment.

20 SEC. 230. TEMPORARY APPOINTMENT OR ADVANCEMENT21OF COMMISSIONED OFFICERS IN TIME OF

22 WAR OR NATIONAL EMERGENCY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Officers of the Administration shall
be subject in like manner and to the same extent as personnel of the Navy to all laws authorizing temporary ap-

pointment or advancement of commissioned officers in time
 of war or national emergency.

3 (b) LIMITATIONS.—Subsection (a) shall be applied sub4 ject to the following limitations:

5 (1) A commissioned officer in the service of a
6 military department under section 251 may, upon the
7 recommendation of the Secretary of the military de8 partment concerned, be temporarily promoted to a
9 higher rank or grade.

(2) A commissioned officer in the service of the
Administration may be temporarily promoted to fill
vacancies in ranks and grades caused by the transfer
of commissioned officers to the service and jurisdiction of a military department under section 251.

(3) Temporary appointments may be made in
all grades to which original appointments in the Administration are authorized, except that the number
of officers holding temporary appointments may not
exceed the number of officers transferred to a military
department under section 251.

21 SEC. 231. PAY AND ALLOWANCES; DATE OF ACCEPTANCE OF
22 PROMOTION.

(a) ACCEPTANCE AND DATE OF PROMOTION.—An officer of the commissioned corps who is promoted to a higher
grade—

(1) is deemed for all purposes to have accepted
 the promotion upon the date the promotion is made
 by the President, unless the officer expressly declines
 the promotion; and
 (2) shall receive the pay and allowances of the

6 higher grade from that date unless the officer is enti7 tled under another provision of law to receive the pay
8 and allowances of the higher grade from an earlier
9 date.

10 (b) OATH OF OFFICE.—An officer who subscribed to 11 the oath of office required by section 3331 of title 5, United 12 States Code, shall not be required to renew such oath or 13 to take a new oath upon promotion to a higher grade, if 14 the service of the officer after the taking of such oath is con-15 tinuous.

16SEC. 232. SERVICE CREDIT AS DECK OFFICER OR JUNIOR17ENGINEER FOR PROMOTION PURPOSES.

18 For purposes of promotion, there shall be counted in
19 addition to active commissioned service, service as deck offi20 cer or junior engineer.

21 SEC. 233. SUSPENSION DURING WAR OR EMERGENCY.

In time of emergency declared by the President or by
the Congress, and in time of war, the President is authorized, in the President's discretion, to suspend the operation

of all or any part of the provisions of law pertaining to 1 promotion of commissioned officers of the Administration. 2 Subtitle C—Separation and 3 **Retirement of Officers** 4 5 SEC. 241. INVOLUNTARY RETIREMENT OR SEPARATION. 6 (a) TRANSFER OF OFFICERS TO RETIRED LIST: SEPA-7 RATION FROM SERVICE.—As recommended by a personnel 8 board convened under section 222-9 (1) an officer in the permanent grade of captain 10 or commander may be transferred to the retired list; 11 and 12 (2) an officer in the permanent grade of lieuten-13 ant commander, lieutenant, or lieutenant (junior 14 grade) who is not qualified for retirement may be sep-15 arated from the service. 16 (b) COMPUTATIONS.—In any fiscal year, the total number of officers selected for retirement or separation 17 under subsection (a) plus the number of officers retired for 18 age may not exceed the whole number nearest 4 percent of 19 the total number of officers authorized to be on the active 20 21 list, except as otherwise provided by law. 22 (c) EFFECTIVE DATE OF RETIREMENTS AND SEPARA-23 TIONS.—A retirement or separation under subsection (a) 24 shall take effect on the first day of the sixth month begin-

25 ning after the date on which the Secretary approves the re-

tirement or separation, except that if the officer concerned
 requests an earlier retirement or separation date, the date
 shall be as determined by the Secretary.

4 SEC. 242. SEPARATION PAY.

5 (a) AUTHORIZATION OF PAYMENT.—An officer who is 6 separated under section 241(a)(2) and who has completed 7 more than three years of continuous active service imme-8 diately before that separation is entitled to separation pay 9 computed under subsection (b) unless the Secretary deter-10 mines that the conditions under which the officer is sepa-11 rated do not warrant payment of that pay.

12 (b) Amount of Separation Pay.—

13 (1) SIX OR MORE YEARS.—In the case of an offi-14 cer who has completed six or more years of continuous 15 active service immediately before that separation, the 16 amount of separation pay to be paid to the officer 17 under this section is 10 percent of the product of-18 (A) the years of active service creditable to 19 the officer; and 20 (B) 12 times the monthly basic pay to 21 which the officer was entitled at the time of sepa-22 ration.

(2) THREE TO SIX YEARS.—In the case of an officer who has completed three or more but fewer than
six years of continuous active service immediately be-

fore that separation, the amount of separation pay to
 be paid to the officer under this section is one-half of
 the amount computed under paragraph (1).
 (c) OTHER CONDITIONS, REQUIREMENTS, AND ADMIN-

5 ISTRATIVE PROVISIONS.—The provisions of subsections (f),
6 (g), and (h) of section 1174 of title 10, United States Code,
7 shall apply to separation pay under this section in the same
8 manner as such provisions apply to separation pay under
9 that section.

10 SEC. 243. MANDATORY RETIREMENT FOR AGE.

(a) OFFICERS BELOW GRADE OF REAR ADMIRAL
(LOWER HALF).—Unless retired or separated earlier, each
officer on the lineal list of the commissioned corps who is
serving in a grade below the grade of rear admiral (lower
half) shall be retired on the first day of the month following
the month in which the officer becomes 62 years of age.

(b) FLAG OFFICERS.—Notwithstanding subsection (a),
the President may defer the retirement of an officer serving
in a position that carries a grade above captain for such
period as the President considers advisable, but such a
deferment may not extend beyond the first day of the month
following the month in which the officer becomes 64 years
of age.

1 SEC. 244. RETIREMENT FOR LENGTH OF SERVICE.

An officer who has completed 20 years of service, of
which at least 10 years was service as a commissioned officer, may at any time thereafter, upon application by such
officer and in the discretion of the President, be placed on
the retired list.

7 SEC. 245. COMPUTATION OF RETIRED PAY.

8 (a) OFFICERS FIRST BECOMING MEMBERS BEFORE 9 SEPTEMBER 8, 1980.—Each officer on the retired list who 10 first became a member of a uniformed service before Sep-11 tember 8, 1980, shall receive retired pay at the rate deter-12 mined by multiplying—

13 (1) the retired pay base determined under section
14 1406(g) of title 10, United States Code; by

(2) 2¹/₂ percent of the number of years of service
that may be credited to the officer under section 1405
of such title as if the officer's service were service as
a member of the Armed Forces.

19 The retired pay so computed may not exceed 75 percent20 of the retired pay base.

(b) OFFICERS FIRST BECOMING MEMBERS ON OR
AFTER SEPTEMBER 8, 1980.—Each officer on the retired
list who first became a member of a uniformed service on
or after September 8, 1980, shall receive retired pay at the
rate determined by multiplying—

1	(1) the retired pay base determined under section
2	1407 of title 10, United States Code; by
3	(2) the retired pay multiplier determined under
4	section 1409 of such title for the number of years of
5	service that may be credited to the officer under sec-
6	tion 1405 of such title as if the officer's service were
7	service as a member of the Armed Forces.
8	(c) TREATMENT OF FULL AND FRACTIONAL PARTS OF
9	Months in Computing Years of Service.—
10	(1) IN GENERAL.—In computing the number of
11	years of service of an officer for the purposes of sub-
12	section (a)—
13	(A) each full month of service that is in ad-
14	dition to the number of full years of service cred-
15	itable to the officer shall be credited as $\frac{1}{12}$ of a
16	year; and
17	(B) any remaining fractional part of a
18	month shall be disregarded.
19	(2) ROUNDING.—Retired pay computed under
20	this section, if not a multiple of \$1, shall be rounded
21	to the next lower multiple of \$1.
22	SEC. 246. RETIRED GRADE AND RETIRED PAY.
23	Each officer retired pursuant to law shall be placed
24	on the retired list with the highest grade satisfactorily held
25	by that officer while on acting duty including acting duty

by that officer while on active duty including active duty

pursuant to recall, under permanent or temporary appoint ment, and shall receive retired pay based on such highest
 grade, if—

4 (1) the officer's performance of duty in such
5 highest grade has been satisfactory, as determined by
6 the Secretary of the department or departments under
7 whose jurisdiction the officer served; and

8 (2) unless retired for disability, the officer's 9 length of service in such highest grade is no less than 10 that required by the Secretary of officers retiring 11 under permanent appointment in that grade.

12 SEC. 247. RETIRED RANK AND PAY HELD PURSUANT TO 13 OTHER LAWS UNAFFECTED.

Nothing in this subtitle shall prevent an officer from
being placed on the retired list with the highest rank and
with the highest retired pay to which the officer is entitled
under any other provision of law.

18 SEC. 248. CONTINUATION ON ACTIVE DUTY; DEFERRAL OF

19 **RETIREMENT.**

20 The provisions of subchapter IV of chapter 36 of title
21 10, United States Code, relating to continuation on active
22 duty and deferral of retirement shall apply to commissioned
23 officers of the Administration.

1 SEC. 249. RECALL TO ACTIVE DUTY.

2 The provisions of chapter 39 of title 10, United States
3 Code, relating to recall of retired officers to active duty, in4 cluding the limitations on such recalls, shall apply to com5 missioned officers of the Administration.

6 Subtitle D—Service of Officers With 7 the Military Departments 8 SEC. 251. COOPERATION WITH AND TRANSFER TO MILITARY 9 DEPARTMENTS.

10 (a) IN GENERAL.—The President may, whenever in the judgment of the President a sufficient national emer-11 gency exists, transfer to the service and jurisdiction of a 12 13 military department such vessels, equipment, stations, and officers of the Administration as the President considers to 14 be in the best interest of the country. After any such transfer 15 16 all expenses connected therewith shall be defrayed out of the appropriations for the department to which the transfer is 17 18 made. Such transferred vessels, equipment, stations, and officers shall be returned to the Administration when the na-19 tional emergency ceases, in the opinion of the President. 20 21 Nothing in this section shall be construed as transferring 22 the Administration or any of its functions from the Depart-23 ment of Commerce except in time of national emergency 24 and to the extent provided in this section.

25 (b) STATUS OF TRANSFERRED OFFICERS.—An officer
26 of the Administration transferred under this section, shall,
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while under the jurisdiction of a military department, have
 proper military status and shall be subject to the laws, regu lations, and orders for the government of the Army, Navy,
 or Air Force, as the case may be, insofar as the same may
 be applicable to persons whose retention permanently in the
 military service of the United States is not contemplated
 by law.

8 SEC. 252. RELATIVE RANK OF OFFICERS WHEN SERVING 9 WITH ARMY, NAVY, OR AIR FORCE.

10 When serving with the Army, Navy, or Air Force, an 11 officer of the Administration shall rank with and after offi-12 cers of corresponding grade in the Army, Navy, or Air Force 13 of the same length of service in grade. Nothing in this sub-14 title shall be construed to affect or alter an officer's rates 15 of pay and allowances when not assigned to military duty. 16 SEC. 253. RULES AND REGULATIONS WHEN COOPERATING

17

WITH MILITARY DEPARTMENTS.

(a) JOINT REGULATIONS.—The Secretary of Defense
and the Secretary of Commerce shall jointly prescribe
regulations—

21 (1) governing the duties to be performed by the
22 Administration in time of war; and

(2) providing for the cooperation of the Administration with the military departments in time of
peace in preparation for its duties in time of war.

(b) APPROVAL.—Regulations under subsection (a) 1 2 shall not be effective unless approved by each of those Secre-3 taries.

4 (c) COMMUNICATIONS.—Regulations under subsection 5 (a) may provide procedures for making reports and communications between a military department and the Adminis-6 7 tration.

Subtitle E—Rights and Benefits 8 9 SEC. 261. APPLICABILITY OF CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF

10

TITLE 10, UNITED STATES CODE.

11 (a) Provisions Made Applicable to the Corps.— 12 The rules of law that apply to the Armed Forces under the following provisions of title 10, United States Code, as those 13 provisions are in effect from time to time, apply also to 14 15 the commissioned officer corps of the Administration:

16 (1) Chapter 40, relating to leave.

17 (2) Section 716, relating to transfers between the 18 armed forces and to and from National Oceanic and 19 Atmospheric Administration.

20 (3) Section 1035, relating to deposits of savings. 21 (4) Section 1036, relating to transportation and 22 travel allowances for escorts for dependents of mem-23 bers.

24 (5) Section 1052, relating to reimbursement for 25 adoption expenses.

1	(6) Section 1174a, relating to special separation
2	benefits (except that benefits under subsection
3	(b)(2)(B) of such section are subject to the availability
4	of appropriations for such purpose and are provided
5	at the discretion of the Secretary of Commerce).
6	(7) Chapter 61, relating to retirement or separa-
7	tion for physical disability.
8	(8) Chapter 69, relating to retired grade, except
9	sections 1370, 1375, and 1376.
10	(9) Chapter 71, relating to computation of re-
11	tired pay.
12	(10) Chapter 73, relating to annuities based on
13	retired or retainer pay.
14	(11) Subchapter II of chapter 75, relating to
15	death benefits.
16	(12) Section 2634, relating to transportation of
17	motor vehicles for members on permanent change of
18	station.
19	(13) Sections 2731 and 2735, relating to prop-
20	erty loss incident to service.
21	(14) Section 2771, relating to final settlement of
22	accounts of deceased members.
23	(15) Such other provisions of subtitle A of that
24	title as may be adopted for applicability to the com-
25	missioned officer corps of the National Oceanic and

Atmospheric Administration by any other provision
 of law.

3 (b) REFERENCES.—The authority vested by title 10,
4 United States Code, in the "military departments", "the
5 Secretary concerned", or "the Secretary of Defense" with
6 respect to the provisions of law referred to in subsection (a)
7 shall be exercised, with respect to the commissioned officer
8 corps of the Administration, by the Secretary of Commerce
9 or the Secretary's designee.

10 SEC. 262. ELIGIBILITY FOR VETERANS BENEFITS AND11OTHER RIGHTS, PRIVILEGES, IMMUNITIES,12AND BENEFITS UNDER CERTAIN PROVISIONS13OF LAW.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Active service of officers of the Administration shall be deemed to be active military service
for the purposes of all rights, privileges, immunities, and
benefits under the following:

18 (1) Laws administered by the Secretary of Vet19 erans Affairs.

20 (2) The Soldiers' and Sailors' Civil Relief Act of
21 1940 (50 App. U.S.C. 501 et seq.).

22 (3) Section 210 of the Social Security Act (42
23 U.S.C. 410), as in effect before September 1, 1950.

24 (b) EXERCISE OF AUTHORITY.—In the administration

25 of the laws and regulations referred to in subsection (a),

with respect to the Administration, the authority vested in
 the Secretary of Defense and the Secretaries of the military
 departments and their respective departments shall be exer cised by the Secretary of Commerce.

5 SEC. 263. MEDICAL AND DENTAL CARE.

6 The Secretary may provide medical and dental care,
7 including care in private facilities, for personnel of the Ad8 ministration entitled to that care by law or regulation.

9 SEC. 264. COMMISSARY PRIVILEGES.

10 (a) EXTENSION OF PRIVILEGE.—Commissioned offi-11 cers, ships' officers, and members of crews of vessels of the 12 Administration shall be permitted to purchase commissary 13 and quartermaster supplies as far as available from the 14 Armed Forces at the prices charged officers and enlisted 15 members of the Armed Forces.

16 (b) SALES OF RATIONS, STORES, UNIFORMS, AND RE-LATED EQUIPMENT.—The Secretary may purchase ration 17 supplies for messes, stores, uniforms, accouterments, and re-18 lated equipment for sale aboard ship and shore stations of 19 the Administration to members of the uniformed services 20 21 and to personnel assigned to such ships or shore stations. 22 Sales shall be in accordance with regulations prescribed by 23 the Secretary, and proceeds therefrom shall, as far as is 24 practicable, fully reimburse the appropriations charged 25 without regard to fiscal year.

(c) SURVIVING SPOUSES' RIGHTS.—Rights extended to
 members of the uniformed services in this section are ex tended to their surviving spouses and to such others as are
 designated by the Secretary concerned.

5 SEC. 265. AUTHORITY TO USE APPROPRIATED FUNDS FOR
6 TRANSPORTATION AND REIMBURSEMENT OF
7 CERTAIN ITEMS.

8 (a) TRANSPORTATION OF EFFECTS OF DECEASED OF-9 FICERS.—In the case of an officer who dies on active duty, the Secretary may provide, from appropriations made 10 available to the Administration, transportation (including 11 packing, unpacking, crating, and uncrating) of personal 12 13 and household effects of that officer to the official residence of record of that officer. However, upon application by the 14 15 dependents of such an officer, such transportation may be provided to such other location as may be determined by 16 the Secretary. 17

(b) REIMBURSEMENT FOR SUPPLIES FURNISHED BY
OFFICERS TO DISTRESSED AND SHIPWRECKED PERSONS.—Under regulations prescribed by the Secretary, appropriations made available to the Administration may be
used to reimburse an officer for food, clothing, medicines,
and other supplies furnished by the officer—

24 (1) for the temporary relief of distressed persons
25 in remote localities; or

1	(2) to shipwrecked persons who are temporarily
2	provided for by the officer.
3	SEC. 266. PRESENTATION OF UNITED STATES FLAG UPON
4	RETIREMENT.
5	(a) PRESENTATION OF FLAG UPON RETIREMENT.—
6	Upon the release of a commissioned officer from active com-
7	missioned service for retirement, the Secretary shall present
8	a United States flag to the officer.
9	(b) Multiple Presentations Not Authorized.—
10	An officer is not eligible for presentation of a flag under
11	subsection (a) if the officer has previously been presented
12	a flag under this section or any other provision of law pro-
13	viding for the presentation of a United States flag incident
14	to release from active service for retirement.
15	(c) NO COST TO RECIPIENT.—The presentation of a
16	flag under this section shall be at no cost to the recipient.
17	Subtitle F—Repeals and
18	Conforming Amendments
19	SEC. 271. REPEALS.
20	The following provisions of law are repealed:
21	(1) The Coast and Geodetic Survey Commis-
22	sioned Officers' Act of 1948 (33 U.S.C. 853a et seq.).
23	(2) Section 3 of the Act of August 10, 1956 (33
24	U.S.C. 857a).

1	(3) Public Law 91–621 (33 U.S.C. 857–1 et
2	seq.).
3	(4) Section 16 of the Act of May 22, 1917 (33
4	U.S.C. 854, 855, 856, 857, and 858).
5	(5) Section 1 of the Act of July 22, 1947 (33
6	U.S.C. 874).
7	(6) Section 11 of the Act entitled "An Act to in-
8	crease the efficiency of the commissioned and enlisted
9	personnel of the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Coast
10	Guard, Coast and Geodetic Survey, and Public
11	Health Service", enacted May 18, 1920 (33 U.S.C.
12	864).
13	(7) Section 636(a)(17) of the Foreign Assistance
14	Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2396(a)(17)).
15	SEC. 272. CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.
16	(a) TITLE 10, UNITED STATES CODE.—Section
17	1406(g) of title 10, United States Code, is amended by strik-
18	ing "section 16 of the Coast and Geodetic Survey Commis-
19	sioned Officers' Act of 1948 (33 U.S.C. 8530)" and inserting
20	"section 305 of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Ad-
21	ministration Commissioned Officers Act of 2002".
22	(b) PUBLIC LAW 104–106.—Section 566(c) of the Na-
23	tional Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1996 (Pub-
24	lic Law 104–106; 110 Stat. 328; 10 U.S.C. 1293 note) is
25	amended by striking "the Coast and Geodetic Survey Com-

- 1 missioned Officers' Act of 1948" and inserting "the Na-
- 2 tional Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Commis-
- 3 sioned Officer Corps Act of 2002".

Union Calendar No. 372

107th CONGRESS 2D Session

H. R. 4883

[Report No. 107-621]

A BILL

To reauthorize the Hydrographic Services Improvement Act of 1998, and for other purposes.

July 26, 2002

Reported with an amendment, committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed