

115TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 2867

To improve the Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps programs, to authorize an expansion of their presence in low-income, rural, and underserved areas of the United States, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 16, 2018

Mr. WICKER introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Armed Services

A BILL

To improve the Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps programs, to authorize an expansion of their presence in low-income, rural, and underserved areas of the United States, 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. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “JROTC Opportunities
5 for Transformational Change Act” or “JROTC Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. ENHANCEMENT OF AUTHORITIES IN CONNECTION**
2 **WITH JUNIOR RESERVE OFFICERS' TRAINING**
3 **CORPS PROGRAMS.**

4 (a) **AUTHORITY TO CONVERT OTHERWISE CLOSING**
5 **UNITS TO NATIONAL DEFENSE CADET CORPS PROGRAM**
6 **UNITS.**—If the Secretary of a military department is noti-
7 fied by a local educational agency of the intent of the
8 agency to close its Junior Reserve Officers' Training
9 Corps (JROTC) unit, the Secretary shall offer the agency
10 the option of converting the program to a National De-
11 fense Cadet Corps (NDCC) program unit in lieu of closing
12 the unit.

13 (b) **FLEXIBILITY IN ADMINISTRATION OF INSTRUC-**
14 **TORS.**—

15 (1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretaries of the mili-
16 tary departments shall undertake initiatives designed
17 to promote flexibility in the hiring and compensation
18 of instructors for the Junior Reserve Officers' Train-
19 ing Corps program under the jurisdiction of such
20 Secretaries.

21 (2) **ELEMENTS.**—The initiatives undertaken
22 pursuant to this subsection may provide for one or
23 more of the following:

24 (A) Termination of the requirement for a
25 waiver as a condition of the hiring of well-quali-
26 fied non-commissioned officers with a bachelor's

1 degree for senior instructor positions within the
2 Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps.

3 (B) Specification of a single instructor as
4 the minimum number of instructors required to
5 found and operate a Junior Reserve Officers'
6 Training Corps unit.

7 (C) Authority for Junior Reserve Officers'
8 Training Corps instructors to undertake school
9 duties, in addition to Junior Reserve Officers'
10 Training Corps duties, at small schools.

11 (D) Authority for the payment of instruc-
12 tor compensation for a limited number of Jun-
13 ior Reserve Officers' Training Corps instructors
14 on a 10-month per year basis rather than a 12-
15 month per year basis.

16 (E) Such other actions as the Secretaries
17 of the military departments consider appro-
18 priate.

19 (c) FLEXIBILITY IN ALLOCATION AND USE OF TRAV-
20 EL FUNDING.—The Secretaries of the military depart-
21 ments shall take appropriate actions to provide so-called
22 regional directors of the Junior Reserve Officers' Training
23 Corps programs located at remote rural schools enhanced
24 discretion in the allocation and use of funds for travel in

1 connection with Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps
2 activities.

3 (d) STANDARDIZATION OF PROGRAM DATA.—The
4 Secretary of Defense shall take appropriate actions to
5 standardize the data collected and maintained on the Jun-
6 ior Reserve Officers' Training Corps programs in order
7 to facilitate and enhance the collection and analysis of
8 such data. Such actions shall include a requirement for
9 the use of the National Center for Education Statistics
10 (NCES) identification code for each school with a unit
11 under a Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps program
12 in order to facilitate identification of such schools and
13 their units under the Junior Reserve Officers' Training
14 Corps programs.

15 (e) AUTHORITY FOR ADDITIONAL UNITS.—

16 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretaries of the mili-
17 tary departments may, using amounts authorized to
18 be appropriated by paragraph (2), establish an ag-
19 gregate of not more than 100 units under the Junior
20 Reserve Officers' Training Corps programs in low-
21 income and rural areas of the United States and
22 areas of the United States currently underserved by
23 the Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps pro-
24 grams.

1 (2) FUNDING.—There is hereby authorized to
2 be appropriated for fiscal year 2019 for the Depart-
3 ment of Defense amounts as follows:

4 (A) For Operation and Maintenance,
5 Army, \$3,140,000, with the amount available
6 for the Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps
7 program of the Army.

8 (B) For Operation and Maintenance,
9 Navy, \$950,000, with the amount available for
10 the Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps
11 program of the Navy.

12 (C) For Operation and Maintenance, Air
13 Force, \$1,000,000, with the amount available
14 for the Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps
15 program of the Air Force.

16 (D) For Operation and Maintenance, Ma-
17 rine Corps, \$390,000, with the amount avail-
18 able for the Junior Reserve Officers' Training
19 Corps program of the Marine Corps.

20 (E) For Military Personnel, \$1,220,000, of
21 which—

22 (i) \$500,000 is for the Army for the
23 Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps
24 program of the Army;

1 (ii) \$270,000 is for the Navy for the
2 Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps
3 program of the Navy;

4 (iii) \$380,000 is for the Air Force for
5 the Junior Reserve Officers' Training
6 Corps program of the Air Force; and

7 (iv) \$70,000 is for the Marine Corps
8 for the Junior Reserve Officers' Training
9 Corps program of the Marine Corps.

10 (3) SUPPLEMENT NOT SUPPLANT.—The
11 amounts authorized to be appropriated for fiscal
12 year 2019 for the Department of Defense by this
13 subsection are in addition to any other amounts au-
14 thorized to be appropriated for fiscal year 2019 for
15 the Department under any other provision of law.

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