

116TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 2629

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 13, 2020

Referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

AN ACT

To amend the Public Health Service Act with respect to
the Public Health Service Corps.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “United States Public
3 Health Service Modernization Act of 2019”.

4 **SEC. 2. AMENDMENTS.**

5 (a) COMMISSIONED CORPS AND READY RESERVE
6 CORPS.—Section 203 of the Public Health Service Act (42
7 U.S.C. 204) is amended—

8 (1) in subsection (a)(1), by striking “a Ready
9 Reserve Corps for service in time of national emer-
10 gency” and inserting “, for service in time of a pub-
11 lic health or national emergency, a Ready Reserve
12 Corps”; and

13 (2) in subsection (c)—

14 (A) in the heading, by striking “RE-
15 SEARCH” and inserting “RESERVE CORPS”;

16 (B) in paragraph (1), by inserting “during
17 public health or national emergencies” before
18 the period;

19 (C) in paragraph (2)—

20 (i) in the matter preceding subpara-
21 graph (A), by inserting “, consistent with
22 paragraph (1)” after “shall”;

23 (ii) in subparagraph (C), by inserting
24 “during such emergencies” after “mem-
25 bers”; and

1 (iii) in subparagraph (D), by inserting
2 “, consistent with subparagraph (C)” be-
3 fore the period; and

4 (D) by adding at the end the following:

5 “(3) STATUTORY REFERENCES TO RESERVE.—

6 A reference in any Federal statute, except in the
7 case of subsection (b), to the ‘Reserve Corps’ of the
8 Public Health Service or to the ‘reserve’ of the Pub-
9 lic Health Service shall be deemed to be a reference
10 to the Ready Reserve Corps.”.

11 (b) DEPLOYMENT READINESS.—Section
12 203A(a)(1)(B) of the Public Health Service Act (42
13 U.S.C. 204a(a)(1)(B)) is amended by striking “Active Re-
14 serves” and inserting “Ready Reserve Corps”.

15 (c) RETIREMENT OF COMMISSIONED OFFICERS.—
16 Section 211 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C.
17 212) is amended—

18 (1) by striking “the Service” each place it ap-
19 pears and inserting “the Regular Corps”;

20 (2) in subsection (a)(4), by striking “(in the
21 case of an officer in the Reserve Corps)”;

22 (3) in subsection (c)—

23 (A) in paragraph (1)—

24 (i) by striking “or an officer of the
25 Reserve Corps”; and

1 (ii) by inserting “or under section
2 221(a)(19)” after “subsection (a)”; and

3 (B) in paragraph (2), by striking “Regular
4 or Reserve Corps” and inserting “Regular
5 Corps or Ready Reserve Corps”; and

6 (4) in subsection (f), by striking “the Regular
7 or Reserve Corps of”.

8 (d) RIGHTS, PRIVILEGES, ETC. OF OFFICERS AND
9 SURVIVING BENEFICIARIES.—Section 221 of the Public
10 Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 213a) is amended—

11 (1) in subsection (a), by adding at the end the
12 following:

13 “(19) Chapter 1223, Retired Pay for Non-Reg-
14 ular Service.

15 “(20) Section 12601, Compensation: Reserve on
16 active duty accepting from any person.

17 “(21) Section 12684, Reserves: separation for
18 absence without authority or sentence to imprison-
19 ment.”; and

20 (2) in subsection (b)—

21 (A) by striking “Secretary of Health, Edu-
22 cation, and Welfare or his designee” and insert-
23 ing “Secretary of Health and Human Services
24 or the designee of such secretary”;

1 (B) by striking “(b) The authority vested”
2 and inserting the following:

3 “(b)(1) The authority vested”;

4 (C) by striking “For purposes of” and in-
5 serting the following:

6 “(2) For purposes of”; and

7 (D) by adding at the end the following:

8 “(3) For purposes of paragraph (19) of subsection
9 (a), the terms ‘Military department’, ‘Secretary con-
10 cerned’, and ‘Armed forces’ in such title 10 shall be
11 deemed to include, respectively, the Department of Health
12 and Human Services, the Secretary of Health and Human
13 Services, and the Commissioned Corps.”.

14 (e) TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS.—Title II of the Pub-
15 lic Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 202 et seq.) is amend-
16 ed—

17 (1) in sections 204 and 207(c), by striking
18 “Regular or Reserve Corps” each place it appears
19 and inserting “Regular Corps or Ready Reserve
20 Corps”;

21 (2) in section 208(a), by striking “Regular and
22 Reserve Corps” each place it appears and inserting
23 “Regular Corps and Ready Reserve Corps”; and

24 (3) in section 205(c), 206(c), 210, and 219,
25 and in subsections (a), (b), and (d) of section 207,

- 1 by striking “Reserve Corps” each place it appears
- 2 and inserting “Ready Reserve Corps”.

Passed the Senate January 9, 2020.

Attest: JULIE E. ADAMS,
Secretary.