

Calendar No. 289

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION**S. 2629**

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

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

OCTOBER 17, 2019

Mr. ROUNDS (for himself and Mr. JONES) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

NOVEMBER 5, 2019

Reported by Mr. ALEXANDER, with an amendment

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

A BILL

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,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

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

1 **SEC. 2. AMENDMENTS.**

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

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

10 (2) in subsection (c)—

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

13 (B) in paragraph (1), by inserting “during
14 public health or national emergencies” before
15 the period;

16 (C) in paragraph (2)—

17 (i) in the matter preceding subpara-
18 graph (A), by inserting “, consistent with
19 paragraph (1)” after “shall”;

20 (ii) in subparagraph (C), by inserting
21 “during such emergencies” after “mem-
22 bers”; and

23 (iii) in subparagraph (D), by inserting
24 “, consistent with subparagraph (C)” be-
25 fore the period; and

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

1 ~~“(3) STATUTORY REFERENCES TO RESERVE.—~~

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

7 (b) DEPLOYMENT READINESS.—Section
8 203A(a)(1)(B) of the Public Health Service Act (42
9 U.S.C. 204a(a)(1)(B)) is amended by striking “Active Re-
10 serves” and inserting “Ready Reserve Corps”.

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

14 (1) by striking “(in the case of an officer in the
15 Reserve Corps)” each place it appears;

16 (2) by striking “the Service” each place it ap-
17 pears and inserting “the Regular Corps”;

18 ~~(3) in subsection (c)—~~

19 (A) in paragraph (1)—

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

22 (ii) by inserting “or under section
23 221(a)(19)” after “subsection (a)”; and

1 (B) in paragraph (2), by striking “Regular
 2 or Reserve Corps” and inserting “Regular
 3 Corps or Ready Reserve Corps”; and
 4 (4) in subsection (f), by striking “the Regular
 5 or Reserve Corps of”.

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

9 (1) in subsection (a), by adding at the end the
 10 following:

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

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

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

18 (2) in subsection (b)—

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

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

25 “(b)(1) The authority vested”;

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

3 “(2) For purposes of”; and

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

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

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

14 (1) in sections 204, 207(e), and 208(a), by
 15 striking “Regular or Reserve Corps” and inserting
 16 “Regular Corps or Ready Reserve Corps”; and

17 (2) in section 205(e), 206(e), 210, and 219,
 18 and in subsections (a), (b), and (d) of section 207,
 19 by striking “Reserve Corps” each place it appears
 20 and inserting “Ready Reserve Corps”.

21 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

22 *This Act may be cited as the “United States Public*
 23 *Health Service Modernization Act of 2019”.*

1 **SEC. 2. AMENDMENTS.**

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

5 (1) in subsection (a)(1), by striking “a Ready
6 Reserve Corps for service in time of national emer-
7 gency” and inserting “, for service in time of a public
8 health or national emergency, a Ready Reserve
9 Corps”; and

10 (2) in subsection (c)—

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

13 (B) in paragraph (1), by inserting “during
14 public health or national emergencies” before the
15 period;

16 (C) in paragraph (2)—

17 (i) in the matter preceding subpara-
18 graph (A), by inserting “, consistent with
19 paragraph (1)” after “shall”;

20 (ii) in subparagraph (C), by inserting
21 “during such emergencies” after “members”;
22 and

23 (iii) in subparagraph (D), by inserting
24 “, consistent with subparagraph (C)” before
25 the period; and

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

1 “(3) *STATUTORY REFERENCES TO RESERVE.*—A
 2 *reference in any Federal statute, except in the case of*
 3 *subsection (b), to the ‘Reserve Corps’ of the Public*
 4 *Health Service or to the ‘reserve’ of the Public Health*
 5 *Service shall be deemed to be a reference to the Ready*
 6 *Reserve Corps.”.*

7 (b) *DEPLOYMENT READINESS.*—Section
 8 203A(a)(1)(B) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C.
 9 204a(a)(1)(B)) is amended by striking “Active Reserves”
 10 and inserting “Ready Reserve Corps”.

11 (c) *RETIREMENT OF COMMISSIONED OFFICERS.*—Sec-
 12 tion 211 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 212)
 13 is amended—

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

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

18 (3) in subsection (c)—

19 (A) in paragraph (1)—

20 (i) by striking “or an officer of the Re-
 21 serve Corps”; and

22 (ii) by inserting “or under section
 23 221(a)(19)” after “subsection (a)”; and

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

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

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

9 (1) in subsection (a), by adding at the end the
10 *following:*

11 “(19) Chapter 1223, *Retired Pay for Non-Reg-*
12 *ular Service.*

13 “(20) Section 12601, *Compensation: Reserve on*
14 *active duty accepting from any person.*

15 “(21) Section 12684, *Reserves: separation for ab-*
16 *sence without authority or sentence to imprison-*
17 *ment.*”; and

18 (2) in subsection (b)—

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

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

25 “(b)(1) The authority vested”;

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

3 “(2) For purposes of”; and

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

5 “(3) For purposes of paragraph (19) of subsection (a),
 6 the terms ‘Military department’, ‘Secretary concerned’, and
 7 ‘Armed forces’ in such title 10 shall be deemed to include,
 8 respectively, the Department of Health and Human Serv-
 9 ices, the Secretary of Health and Human Services, and the
 10 Commissioned Corps.”.

11 (e) *TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS.*—Title II of the Public
 12 Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 202 et seq.) is amended—

13 (1) in sections 204 and 207(c), by striking “Reg-
 14 ular or Reserve Corps” each place it appears and in-
 15 serting “Regular Corps or Ready Reserve Corps”;

16 (2) in section 208(a), by striking “Regular and
 17 Reserve Corps” each place it appears and inserting
 18 “Regular Corps and Ready Reserve Corps”; and

19 (3) in section 205(c), 206(c), 210, and 219, and
 20 in subsections (a), (b), and (d) of section 207, by
 21 striking “Reserve Corps” each place it appears and
 22 inserting “Ready Reserve Corps”.

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