Compensation.

(c) The Commission may appoint and fix the compensation of such personnel as it deems advisable without regard to the provisions of title 5, United States Code, governing appointments in the competitive service, and such personnel may be paid without regard to the provisions of chapter 51 and subchapter III of chapter 53 of such title relating to classification and General Schedule pay rates, but at a rate not to exceed the maximum rate authorized by the General Schedule. In addition, the Commission may procure the services of experts and consultants in accordance with section 3109 of title 5, United States Code, but at rates for individuals not to exceed the daily equivalent of the annual rate of basic pay in effect for the maximum rate authorized by the General Schedule.

(d) The Commission is authorized to negotiate and enter into contracts with private organizations and educational institutions to carry out such studies and prepare such reports as the Commission determines are necessary in order to carry out its duties.

COOPERATION WITH FEDERAL AGENCIES

Sec. 7. (a) Each department, agency, and instrumentality of the Federal Government is authorized and directed to furnish to the Commission, upon request made by the Chairman, such data, reports, and other information not otherwise prohibited by law as the Commission deems necessary to carry out its functions under this Act.

(b) The head of each department or agency of the Federal Government is authorized to provide to the Commission such services as the Commission requests on such basis, reimbursable or otherwise, as may be agreed between the department or agency and the Chairman or Vice Chairman of the Commission. All such requests shall be made by the Chairman or Vice Chairman of the Commission.

TERMINATION OF THE COMMISSION

Sec. 8. One hundred and twenty days after the submission of the final report provided for in section 3 of this Act, the Commission shall cease to exist.

AUTHORIZED APPROPRIATIONS

Sec. 9. There are hereby authorized to be appropriated to the Commission such sums as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act.

Approved December 27, 1974.

Public Law 93-557

AN ACT

To amend the Act incorporating the American Legion so as to redefine eligibility for membership therein.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section 5 of the Act entitled "An Act to incorporate the American Legion", approved September 16, 1919 (41 Stat. 285; 36 U.S.C. 45), is hereby amended to read as follows:

"Sec. 5. No person shall be a member of this corporation unless he has served in the naval or military services of the United States at some time during any of the following periods: April 6, 1917, to
November 11, 1918; December 7, 1941, to December 31, 1946; June 25, 1950, to January 31, 1955; August 5, 1964, to August 15, 1973; all dates inclusive, or who, being a citizen of the United States at the time of entry therein, served in the military or naval service of any of the governments associated with the United States during said wars or hostilities: Provided, however, That such person shall have an honorable discharge or separation from such service or continues to serve honorably after any of the aforesaid terminal dates."

Approved December 27, 1974.

Public Law 93-558

AN ACT

To amend title 10, United States Code, to provide that commissioned officers of the Army in regular grades below major may be involuntarily discharged whenever there is a reduction in force.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That chapter 361 of title 10, United States Code, is amended by inserting the following new section after section 3814, and inserting a corresponding new item in the chapter analysis:

"§ 3814a. Regular commissioned officers; second lieutenants, first lieutenants, and captains; discharge during a reduction in force

"(a) Under regulations prescribed by the Secretary of the Army, whenever he determines that a reduction in the active duty officer personnel strength of the Army is required, he is authorized to remove from the active list of the Regular Army any commissioned officer below the grade of major, if such officer is recommended for removal from the active list by a board of officers appointed by the Secretary of the Army, or his designee, for the purpose of recommending the removal of officers from the active list.

"(b) Any officer selected for removal from the active list of the Regular Army under subsection (a) shall—

"(1) if he is eligible, and so requests, be retired under section 3911 of this title on the date requested by him and approved by the Secretary, but not later than ninety days after such officer receives notification that he is to be removed from the active list of the Regular Army;

"(2) if he is not eligible for retirement under section 3911 of this title, but is eligible for retirement under any other provision of law, be retired under that law on the date requested by him and approved by the Secretary, but not later than ninety days after the date such officer receives notification that he is to be removed from the active list of the Regular Army; or

"(3) if he is not eligible for retirement under section 3911 of this title or any other provision of law, or does not request retirement under section 3911 of this title or under any other provision of law if he is eligible, be honorably discharged on the date requested by him and approved by the Secretary, but not later than ninety days after the date such officer receives notification that he is to be removed from the active list of the Regular Army, and be granted a readjustment payment as provided in subsection (c) of this section.