

civil service laws (including regulations), appoint and terminate such additional personnel as are necessary to enable the Commission to perform the duties of the Commission.

(2) COMPENSATION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), the Chairperson of the Commission may fix the compensation of the Executive Director and White House Liaison and other personnel without regard to the provisions of chapter 51 and subchapter III of chapter 53 of title 5, United States Code, relating to classification of positions and General Schedule pay rates.

(B) MAXIMUM RATE OF PAY.—The rate of pay for the Executive Director and White House Liaison and other personnel shall not exceed the rate equal to the daily equivalent of the annual rate of basic pay prescribed for level IV of the Executive Schedule under section 5315 of title 5, United States Code, for each day (including travel time) during which the member is engaged in the performance of the duties of the Commission.

(d) DETAIL OF FEDERAL GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—In addition to the details under paragraph (2), on request of the Chairperson, the Vice Chairperson, or the Executive Director and White House Liaison, an employee of the Federal Government may be detailed to the Commission without reimbursement.

(2) DETAIL OF SPECIFIC EMPLOYEES.—

(A) MILITARY DETAILS.—

(i) ARMY; AIR FORCE.—The Secretary of the Army and the Secretary of the Air Force shall each detail a commissioned officer above the grade of captain to assist the Commission in carrying out this Act.

(ii) NAVY.—The Secretary of the Navy shall detail a commissioned officer of the Navy above the grade of lieutenant and a commissioned officer of the Marine Corps above the grade of captain to assist the Commission in carrying out this Act.

(B) VETERANS AFFAIRS; EDUCATION.—The Secretary of Veterans Affairs and the Secretary of Education shall each detail an officer or employee compensated above the level of GS-12 in accordance with subchapter III of chapter 53 of title 5, United States Code to assist the Commission in carrying out this Act.

(3) CIVIL SERVICE STATUS.—The detail of any officer or employee under this subsection shall be without interruption or loss of civil service status or privilege.

(e) PROCUREMENT OF TEMPORARY AND INTERMITTENT SERVICES.—The Chairperson of the Commission may procure temporary and intermittent services in accordance with section 3109(b) of title 5, United States Code, at rates for individuals that do not exceed the daily equivalent of the annual rate of basic pay prescribed for level V of the Executive Schedule under section 5316 of that title.

(f) COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Commission may enter into a cooperative agreement with another entity, including any Federal agency, State or local government, or private entity, under which the entity may assist the Commission in—

(A) carrying out the duties of the Commission under this Act; and

(B) contributing to public awareness of and interest in Memorial Day and the National Moment of Remembrance.

(2) ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT SERVICES.—On the request of the Commission, the Administrator of General Services shall provide to the Commission, on a reimbursable basis, any administrative support services and any property, equipment, or office space that the Commission determines to be necessary to carry out this Act.

(g) SUPPORT FROM NONPROFIT SECTOR.—The Commission may accept program support from nonprofit organizations.

SEC. 9. REMEMBRANCE ALLIANCE.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established the Remembrance Alliance.

(b) COMPOSITION.—

(1) MEMBERS.—The Alliance shall be composed of individuals, appointed by the Commission, that are representatives or members of—

(A) the print, broadcast, or other media industry;

(B) the national sports community;

(C) the recreation industry;

(D) the entertainment industry;

(E) the retail industry;

(F) the food industry;

(G) the health care industry;

(H) the transportation industry;

(I) the education community;

(J) national veterans organizations; and

(K) families that have lost loved ones in combat.

(2) HONORARY MEMBERS.—On recommendation of the Alliance, the Commission may appoint honorary, nonvoting members to the Alliance.

(3) VACANCIES.—Any vacancy in the membership of the Alliance shall be filled in the same manner in which the original appointment was made.

(4) MEETINGS.—The Alliance shall conduct meetings in accordance with procedures approved by the Commission.

(c) TERM.—The Commission may fix the term of appointment for members of the Alliance.

(d) DUTIES.—The Alliance shall assist the Commission in carrying out this Act by—

(1) planning, organizing, and implementing an annual White House Conference on the National Moment of Remembrance and other similar events;

(2) promoting the observance of Memorial Day and the National Moment of Remembrance through appropriate means, subject to any guidelines developed by the Commission;

(3) establishing necessary incentives for Federal, State, and local governments and private sector entities to sponsor and participate in programs initiated by the Commission or the Alliance;

(4) evaluating the effectiveness of efforts by the Commission and the Alliance in carrying out this Act; and

(5) carrying out such other duties as are assigned by the Commission.

(e) ALLIANCE PERSONNEL MATTERS.—

(1) COMPENSATION OF MEMBERS.—A member of the Alliance shall serve without compensation for the services of the member to the Alliance.

(2) TRAVEL EXPENSES.—A member of the Alliance may be allowed reimbursement for travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, at rates authorized for an employee of an agency under subchapter I of chapter 57 of title 5, United States Code, while away from the home or regular place of business of the member in the performance of the duties of the Commission.

(f) TERMINATION.—The Alliance shall terminate on the date of termination of the Commission.

SEC. 10. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND WHITE HOUSE LIAISON.

(a) APPOINTMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Director of the Committee Management Secretariat Staff of the General Services Administration shall appoint an individual as Executive Director and White House Liaison.

(2) INAPPLICABILITY OF CERTAIN CIVIL SERVICE LAWS.—The Executive Director and White House Liaison may be appointed without re-

gard to the provisions of title 5, United States Code, governing appointments in the competitive service.

(b) DUTIES.—The Executive Director and White House Liaison shall—

(1) serve as a liaison between the Commission and the President;

(2) serve as chief of staff of the Commission; and

(3) coordinate the efforts of the Commission and the President on all matters relating to this Act, including matters relating to the National Moment of Remembrance.

(c) COMPENSATION.—The Executive Director and White House Liaison may be compensated at a rate equal to the daily equivalent of the annual rate of basic pay prescribed for level IV of the Executive Schedule under section 5315 of title 5, United States Code, for each day (including travel time) during which the Executive Director and White House Liaison is engaged in the performance of the duties of the Commission.

SEC. 11. AUDIT OF FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Comptroller General of the United States shall audit, on an annual basis, the financial transactions of the Commission (including financial transactions involving donated funds) in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards.

(b) ACCESS.—The Commission shall ensure that the Comptroller General, in conducting an audit under this section, has—

(1) access to all books, accounts, financial records, reports, files, and other papers, items, or property in use by the Commission, as necessary to facilitate the audit; and

(2) full ability to verify the financial transactions of the Commission, including access to any financial records or securities held for the Commission by depositories, fiscal agents, or custodians.

SEC. 12. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this Act, to remain available until expended—

(1) \$500,000 for fiscal year 2001; and

(2) \$250,000 for each of fiscal years 2002 through 2009.

SEC. 13. TERMINATION.

The Commission shall terminate on the earlier of—

(1) a date specified by the President that is at least 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act; or

(2) the date that is 10 years after the date of enactment of this Act.

The Senate bill was ordered to be read a third time, was read the third time, and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

(Mr. SCOTT asked and was given permission to speak out of order for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

THANKS TO EDWARD PEASE FOR HIS DISTINGUISHED SERVICE

Mr. SCOTT. Mr. Speaker, I ask for this time just to thank the Speaker for the distinguished manner in which he has presided today and on previous days. Much has been made about the acrimony of the House of Representatives, and I can say that if more Members behaved as the Speaker has in the honorable and distinguished way that he has conducted his legislative affairs, very little would have been heard about acrimony.

So I want to join the gentleman from California in thanking the Speaker for his fine service.

COMMENDING PRESENT ARMY NURSE CORPS FOR EXTENDING EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES TO MEN AND WOMEN

Mr. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Armed Service be discharged from further consideration of the resolution (H. Res. 476) commending the present Army Nurse Corps for extending equal opportunities to men and women, and recognizing the brave and honorable service during and before 1955 of men who served as Army hospital corpsmen and women who served in the Army Nurse Corps, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Florida?

There was no objection.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 476

Whereas in 1901, in the Act popularly known as the Army Reorganization Act, the Congress established the Army Nurse Corps as a permanent corps of the Medical Department of the Army;

Whereas 2001 is the centennial of the Army Nurse Corps;

Whereas the law establishing the Army Nurse Corps designated it as a female unit;

Whereas men, whatever their qualifications or accomplishments, could not enter the Army Nurse Corps because of its designation as a female unit;

Whereas more than 59,000 women bravely served in the Army Nurse Corps during World War II, and more than 5,000 women served during the Korean War;

Whereas some male nurses who might have served in the Army in officer grades instead, due to the exclusion of males from the Army Nurse Corps, served in enlisted grades as Army hospital corpsmen in World War II and the Korean War;

Whereas male nurses expressed concern about this situation to the Surgeon General, their congressional representatives, and newspapers;

Whereas the Congress opened the Army Nurse Corps to males in August 1955, thereby allowing male nurses in the Army to be commissioned as officers, and the Army Nurse Corps became the first gender integrated corps in the Army that year;

Whereas today the Army Nurse Corps is open to both men and women; and

Whereas men and women have bravely served in the Army Nurse Corps in Vietnam, Desert Storm, and other military engagements since 1955: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) commends the present Army Nurse Corps for extending equal opportunities to men and women; and

(2) recognizes the brave and honorable service during and before 1955 of—

(A) men who served as Army hospital corpsmen; and

(B) women who served in the Army Nurse Corps.

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Res. 476, which com-

mends the present Army Nurse Corps for extending equal opportunities to men and women, and recognizes the brave and honorable service of the men and women who have served in the Army Nurse Corps and as Army hospital corpsmen.

From the earliest days of this great country, whenever our army was needed, nurses have served. During the Revolutionary and Civil Wars and other times of need, nurses have been there with the soldiers.

Congress officially established the U.S. Army Nurse Corps on February 2, 1901, with 202 nurses serving on active duty. During World War II, the Corps swelled to over 59,000 nurses, all of whom served their country valiantly and honorably.

Indeed, Army Corps Nurses received 1,619 medals, citations, and commendations during World War II, reflecting their courage and dedication. Sixteen medals were awarded posthumously to nurses who died as a result of enemy fire. These included the 6 nurses who died at Anzio, 6 who died when the Hospital Ship Comfort was attacked by a Japanese suicide plane, and 4 flight nurses. Overall, 201 nurses died while serving in the Army during the war.

In 1947, another act of Congress established the Army Nurse Corps as part of the Medical Department of the active army. In 1950, when hostilities broke out in South Korea, 3,460 Army Nurses were on active duty. Many of them were assigned to field, evacuation and new Mobile Army Surgical Hospitals (MASH), only minutes from the battle areas by helicopter.

Unfortunately, due to the gender discrimination of the Army Nurse Corps during World War II, men, regardless of their training and accomplishments, could not receive officer's commissions in the Nurse Corps and thus often had to enlist as hospital corpsmen, subordinate in rank to female nurses.

One of my constituents, Sam Landis, was one of these men. Mr. Landis served as a surgical technician in the Pacific theater during World War II. During the battle of Okinawa, Mr. Landis placed himself at extreme personal risk in tending to anesthetized casualties while his field hospital was being shelled. He was awarded the Bronze Star for his heroic service.

I am proud to offer this resolution which recognizes men like Sam Landis and which commends the Army Nurse Corp for allowing men into this brave and honorable service.

In 1955, Congress opened the Army Nurse Corps to males, thereby allowing male nurses in the Army to be commissioned as officers, and the Army Nurse Corps became the first gender integrated corps in the Army that year.

From the battlefields of the Civil War to the foreign lands of Asia, these Army Nurses and Army hospital corpsmen sought to relieve the pain and suffering of war. And their mission is no less vital in peacetime. Army Nurses perform in a range of medical situations and emergencies. The extensive training, the sense of proud tradition and the strong commitment to help mankind, have made the Army Nurse not only a valuable asset to the Army, but to our country as well.

I urge my colleagues to join me in support of H. Res. 476.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

HONORING THE FOUR MEMBERS OF THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS WHO DIED ON DECEMBER 11, 2000, IN OSPREY AIRCRAFT CRASH

Mr. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Armed Services be discharged from further consideration of the resolution (H. Res. 673) honoring the four members of the United States Marine Corps who died on December 11, 2000, and extending the condolences of the House of Representatives on their deaths, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Florida?

There was no objection.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 673

Whereas on December 11, 2000, an MV-22 Osprey aircraft crashed during a training mission near Jacksonville, North Carolina, killing all four members of the United States Marine Corps onboard;

Whereas the Marines who lost their lives in the crash made the ultimate sacrifice in the service of the United States and the Marine Corps;

Whereas the families of these proud Marines have the most sincere condolences of the Nation;

Whereas the members of the Marine Corps take special pride in their esprit de corps, and this terrible loss will resonate through Marine Helicopter Squadron 1 based at Quantico, Virginia, Marine Medium Tiltrotor Training Squadron 204 based at Marine Corps Air Station New River, North Carolina, and the entire Marine Corps family;

Whereas the Nation joins the Commandant of the entire Marine Corps and the Marine Corps in mourning their loss; and

Whereas the Marines killed in the accident were—

(1) Lieutenant Colonel Keith M. Sweaney, 42, of Richmond, Virginia, assigned to Marine Helicopter Squadron 1, based at Quantico, Virginia;

(2) Major Michael L. Murphy, 38, of Blauvelt, New York, assigned to Marine Medium Tiltrotor Training Squadron 204, based at Marine Corps Air Station New River, North Carolina;

(3) Staff Sergeant Avelly W. Runnels, 25, of Morven, Georgia, assigned to Marine Medium Tiltrotor Training Squadron 204, based at Marine Corps Air Station New River, North Carolina; and

(4) Sergeant Jason A. Buyck, 24, of Sodus, New York, assigned to Marine Medium Tiltrotor Training Squadron 204, based at Marine Corps Air Station New River, North Carolina: Now therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) has learned with profound sorrow of the deaths of four members of the United States Marine Corps in the crash of an MV-22 Osprey aircraft on December 11, 2000, during a training mission near Jacksonville, North Carolina, and extends condolences to the families of those four members of the Marine Corps;

(2) recognizes that those four members of the Marine Corps embodied the credo of the Marine Corps, "Semper Fidelis";

(3) expresses its profound gratitude to those four members of the Marine Corps for