

ALCOAST 227/08
COMDTNOTE 1001

SUBJ: NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT (NDAA) FISCAL YEAR (FY)
2008 IMPACT ON THE COAST GUARD RESERVE

A. NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2008 B. COMDT COGARD WASHINGTON
DC 141506Z APR 08/ALCOAST 178/08 1. THE FY2008 NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT (P.L.
110-181, 28 JANUARY 2008), REF A, AUTHORIZES POLICY CHANGES WITH REGARDS TO PERSONNEL,
COMPENSATION, BENEFITS, AND HEALTH CARE. REF B PROVIDED GENERAL INFORMATION WRT
MILITARY PAY AND BENEFITS AUTHORIZED BY REF A. THIS ALCOAST PROVIDES A SUMMARY OF THE KEY
CHANGES THAT IMPACT THE COAST GUARD RESERVE, LINKS TO MORE DETAILED INFORMATION, AND
THE RELEVANCE OF THESE NEW CHANGES TO RESERVISTS.

2. MILITARY PERSONNEL POLICY

A. ADVANCE ACTIVATION NOTICE - SECTION 515

(1) RESERVISTS BEING CALLED OR ORDERED TO ACTIVE DUTY FOR A PERIOD OF MORE THAN 30 DAYS
IN SUPPORT OF A CONTINGENCY OPERATION WILL BE GIVEN A MINIMUM OF 30 DAYS ADVANCE NOTICE,
WITH A GOAL OF 90 DAYS ADVANCE NOTICE.

(2) DEPENDING ON THE MISSION, THE COAST GUARD RESERVE MAY REQUEST A WAIVER FOR THE 30
DAY ADVANCE NOTICE FROM THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE (SECDEF) THROUGH THE SECRETARY OF
HOMELAND SECURITY (SEC DHS). THE SECDEF MAY WAIVE THE 30 DAY NOTICE, OR PROVIDE A
SHORTER NOTICE, DURING A WAR OR NATIONAL EMERGENCY, OR TO MEET MISSION REQUIREMENTS.
REASONS FOR A WAIVER MUST BE REPORTED TO CONGRESS.

(3) THE COAST GUARD WILL ADHERE TO THE 30 DAY ADVANCE NOTICE REQUIREMENT FOR 10 U.S.C.
INVOLUNTARY RECALL. PLANNERS CONTINUE TO SCHEDULE UNIT AND INDIVIDUAL MOBILIZATION
AUGMENTEE (IMA) MOBILIZATIONS TO MINIMIZE THE IMPACT ON THE MEMBERS, THEIR FAMILIES, AND
CIVILIAN OBLIGATIONS.

(4) BECAUSE OF THE IMMEDIACY OF RECALLING PERSONNEL TO RESPOND TO DOMESTIC NATURAL OR
MANMADE DISASTERS, THE 30 DAY ADVANCE NOTICE DOES NOT PERTAIN TO 14 U.S.C. 712 RECALL
AUTHORITY. UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF 14 U.S.C. 712, UNLESS THE SEC DHS DETERMINES THAT THE
NATURE OF THE DOMESTIC EMERGENCY DOES NOT ALLOW IT, THIS PERIOD SHALL BE AT LEAST TWO
DAYS.

B. TUITION ASSISTANCE (TA) - SECTION 521

(1) THIS SECTION AUTHORIZES THE RESERVE COMPONENTS (RC) TO REQUIRE OFFICERS TO COMMIT
TO FOUR YEARS OF SERVICE AFTER COMPLETING A TA FUNDED COURSE. THE RC MAY REQUIRE
ENLISTED MEMBERS TO AGREE TO THE SAME COMMITMENT.

(2) THE COAST GUARD RESERVE WILL MIRROR THE CG ACTIVE COMPONENT
(AC) TA ELIGIBILITY AND COMMITMENT REQUIREMENTS. PRIOR TO REQUESTING TA, QUALIFYING
MEMBERS SHOULD MAXIMIZE THE USE OF CHAPTER 1606 AND 1607 BENEFITS.

(3) MONTGOMERY GI BILL SELECTED RESERVE (MGIB-SR), CHAPTER 1606, IS AN EDUCATION
PROGRAM THAT PROVIDES UP TO 36 MONTHS OF EDUCATION BENEFITS TO MEMBERS OF THE SELRES.

(4) RESERVE EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (REAP), CHAPTER 1607, IS AN EDUCATION
PROGRAM THAT PROVIDES UP TO 36 MONTHS OF EDUCATION BENEFITS TO MEMBERS OF THE SELRES
AND INDIVIDUAL READY RESERVE

(IRR) WHO ARE CALLED OR ORDERED TO ACTIVE DUTY IN RESPONSE TO A WAR OR NATIONAL
EMERGENCY.

(5) FOR MORE INFORMATION GO TO

[HTTP://WWW.GIBILL.VA.GOV/GI_BILL_INFO/PROGRAMS.HTM](http://www.gibill.va.gov/gi_bill_info/programs.htm)

C. 1606/1607 ENHANCEMENTS - SECTION 528

(1) RESERVISTS ARE ELIGIBLE FOR ACCELERATED BENEFIT PAYMENTS OF EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE,
MGIB-SR AND REAP, OF UP TO 200 PERCENT OF THE MONTHLY BENEFIT RATE FOR CERTAIN SHORT-
TERM, NON-DEGREE PROGRAMS.

(2) THE PROGRAM OF EDUCATION CANNOT EXCEED TWO YEARS IN DURATION AND NOT LEAD TO AN
ASSOCIATE, BACHELORS, MASTERS, OR OTHER DEGREE.

(3) MEMBERS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR TUITION AND FEES IN EXCESS OF THE AMOUNT EQUAL TO 200
PERCENT OF THE MONTHLY RATE OF EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE ALLOWANCE.

(4) REAP ELIGIBILITY IS EXPANDED TO THE 80 PERCENT BENEFIT LEVEL WHEN A MEMBER HAS THREE
CUMMULATIVE YEARS OF QUALIFYING SERVICE.

(5) RESERVE MEMBERS ELIGIBLE FOR EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE CAN CONTRIBUTE ADDITIONAL
DOLLAR AMOUNTS UNDER THE REAP BUY UP PROGRAM.

A MEMBER WILL RECEIVE AN ADDITIONAL FIVE DOLLARS IN MONTHLY BENEFITS FOR EVERY TWENTY
DOLLARS CONTRIBUTED WITH A MAXIMUM CONTRIBUTION OF 600 DOLLARS. FOR EXAMPLE, IF A
MEMBER CONTRIBUTES 100 DOLLARS, THE MEMBER WOULD RECEIVE AN ADDITIONAL TWENTY DOLLARS
A MONTH OR 240 DOLLARS A YEAR AS LONG AS THEY REMAIN ELIGIBLE FOR THE BENEFITS.

(6) IF A RESERVIST IS MOBILIZED, THE ELIGIBILITY MAY BE EXTENDED FOR THE AMOUNT OF TIME
THEY ARE MOBILIZED PLUS FOUR MONTHS. FOR EXAMPLE, IF A RESERVIST IS MOBILIZED FOR 12
MONTHS THEIR ELIGIBILITY PERIOD IS EXTENDED FOR 16 MONTHS (12 MONTHS ACTIVE DUTY PLUS 4
MONTHS).

(7) FOR MORE INFORMATION GO TO
[HTTP://WWW.GIBILL.VA.GOV/PAMPHLETS/CH1606/CH1606_PAMPHLET_GENERAL.HTM](http://www.gibill.va.gov/pamphlets/CH1606/CH1606_PAMPHLET_GENERAL.HTM)

OR [HTTP://WWW.GIBILL.VA.GOV/NDAA2008C.HTML](http://www.gibill.va.gov/NDAA2008C.HTML)

D. REPEAL OF 1607 SERVICE REQUIREMENT - SECTION 530

(1) RESERVISTS ELIGIBLE FOR REAP WHO SEPARATED FROM THE SELRES AFTER COMPLETING THEIR SERVICE CONTRACT ARE NOW ELIGIBLE FOR REAP BENEFITS FOR 10 YEARS AFTER THEY ARE SEPARATED FROM THE COAST GUARD RESERVE UNLESS THEY WERE SEPARATED UNDER DISHONORABLE CONDITIONS.

(2) SELRES MEMBERS THAT TRANSFERRED OUT OF THE SELRES AND LOST REAP ELIGIBILITY CAN RECLAIM IT UPON REJOINING THE SELRES.

(3) EXAMPLE: A MEMBER HAS AN 8 YEAR SERVICE CONTRACT (4 YEARS ACTIVE AND 4 YEARS SELRES). THE MEMBER IS CALLED UP TO ACTIVE DUTY FROM THE SELRES WHEN RELEASED FROM ACTIVE DUTY, THE MEMBER RETURNS TO THE SELRES AND COMPLETES SERVICE CONTRACT. THE MEMBER WILL BE ELIGIBLE FOR REAP BENEFITS FOR 10 YEARS UPON SEPARATION FROM THE SELRES.

(4) FOR MORE INFORMATION GO TO
[HTTP://WWW.GIBILL.VA.GOV/NDAA2008D.HTML](http://www.gibill.va.gov/NDAA2008D.HTML)

3. COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS

A. IDT TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT - SECTION 631

(1) MILITARY SERVICES ARE AUTHORIZED TO REIMBURSE MEMBERS FOR TRAVEL EXPENSES TO IDT AT A LOCATION OUTSIDE THE REASONABLE COMMUTING DISTANCE IF:

(A) QUALIFIED IN A DESIGNATED CRITICALLY SHORT RATE

(B) ASSIGNED TO A UNIT OR IN A PAY GRADE WITH CRITICAL MANPOWER SHORTAGE.

(2) IDT TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT IS NOT BEING IMPLEMENTED IN THE COAST GUARD FOR FY08. CG-131 IS EVALUATING THE NEED, ESTABLISHING POLICIES, AND REQUESTING FUNDING FOR IMPLEMENTATION IN FUTURE YEARS. INFORMATION ON THIS SUBJECT WILL BE PROVIDED IN A FUTURE ALCOAST ONCE A NEW POLICY IS ESTABLISHED.

B. RESERVE RETIREMENT - AGE - SECTION 647

(1) IF A RESERVIST IS CALLED TO ACTIVE DUTY FOR THE PURPOSE OF RESPONDING TO A NATIONAL EMERGENCY DECLARED BY THE PRESIDENT AND SUPPORTED BY FEDERAL FUNDS, THAT RESERVIST WILL RECEIVE HIS/HER RETIREMENT PAY THREE MONTHS EARLY FOR EVERY AGGREGATE 90 DAYS HE/SHE SERVES ON ACTIVE DUTY DURING THAT FISCAL YEAR. THE CUMULATIVE 90 DAY PERIOD COUNT WILL RESUME AT THE BEGINNING OF EACH FISCAL YEAR.

(2) EARLY RETIREMENT QUALIFYING RECALLS INCLUDE BEING CALLED TO ACTIVE DUTY FOR CONTINGENCIES UNDER 10 U.S.C. 688, 12301(A), 12302, 12304, 12305, 12406, 12731(D) OR CHAPTER 15 OF TITLE 10 U.S. CODE, OR ANY OTHER PROVISION OF LAW DURING A WAR OR DURING A NATIONAL EMERGENCY DECLARED BY THE PRESIDENT OR CONGRESS. CG-131 IS WORKING WITH DOD FOR FINAL DETERMINATION WHETHER 12301(D) IN SUPPORT OF A CONTINGENCY AND 12301(D) NOT IN SUPPORT OF A CONTINGENCY QUALIFY UNDER THIS PROVISION.

(3) ANNUAL TRAINING, INCLUDING TRAINING PERFORMED UNDER 10 U.S.C. 12301(B), NOR RECALL UNDER 14 U.S.C. 712 QUALIFY.

(4) DUTY CREDITABLE FOR EARLIER RETIREMENT MUST BE PERFORMED AFTER 28JAN2008.

(5) THE MINIMUM AGE FOR RECEIPT OF RETIRED PAY IS 50.

(6) ELIGIBILITY FOR DOD HEALTH CARE REMAINS AGE 60.

(7) EXAMPLES: IF A MEMBER PERFORMS 120 DAYS IN A FISCAL YEAR, THE MEMBER RECEIVES RETIRED PAY THREE MONTHS EARLY. IF A MEMBER PERFORMS 160 CONSECUTIVE DAYS OF ACTIVE DUTY, 80 DAYS IN ONE FY AND 80 DAYS IN THE NEXT FY, THE MEMBER DOES NOT QUALIFY FOR EARLY RETIREMENT DUE TO NOT PERFORMING 90 DAYS IN ONE FY.

C. RESERVE RETIREMENT - IDT POINT INCREASE - SECTION 648

(1) THE NUMBER OF IDT POINTS THAT MAY BE USED TO CALCULATE RESERVE RETIRED PAY IS INCREASED FROM 90 TO 130.

(2) THIS DOES NOT INCREASE THE NUMBER OF PAID DRILLS AUTHORIZED, BUT ENSURES RETIREMENT POINTS EARNED WHILE PERFORMING NON-PAID DRILLS, CORRESPONDENCE COURSES, FUNERAL DUTY, READINESS MANAGEMENT PERIODS (RMP), AND OTHER QUALIFYING DUTY ABOVE THE PREVIOUS 90 POINT CAP ARE RETAINED AND ACCREDITED TOWARDS RETIREMENT.

4. HEALTH CARE

A. PROHIBITION ON INCREASING MEMBER COST - SECTION 701

(1) PREMIUMS, DEDUCTIBLES, AND CO-PAYMENTS FOR TRICARE RESERVE SELECT (TRS) MAY NOT BE INCREASED BEFORE 30SEP2008.

B. HEALTH CARE STIPEND FOR CERTAIN RC MEMBERS - SECTION 704

(1) IF A RESERVIST IS CALLED TO ACTIVE DUTY AND HAS A DEPENDENT POSSESSING A SPECIAL HEALTH CARE NEED THAT WOULD BEST BE MET BY REMAINING IN THE MEMBERS CIVILIAN HEALTH PLAN, SECDEF IS AUTHORIZED TO PAY A STIPEND FOR CONTINUING HEALTH CARE COVERAGE.

(2) SECDEF SHALL CONSIDER WHETHER

(A) THE DEPENDENT OF THE MEMBER WAS RECEIVING TREATMENT FOR THE SPECIAL HEALTH CARE NEED BEFORE THE CALL TO ACTIVE DUTY OF THE MEMBER

(B) THE CALL TO ACTIVE DUTY WOULD RESULT IN AN INTERRUPTION IN TREATMENT OR A CHANGE IN HEALTH CARE PROVIDER FOR SUCH TREATMENT.

5. THESE CHANGES WILL BE FURTHER ADDRESSED IN UPCOMING FLAG VOICES AND THE RESERVIST MAGAZINE. THE FULL TEXT IS LOCATED AT [HTTP://ARMEDSERVICES.HOUSE.GOV/NDAA_FY08.SHTML](http://armedservices.house.gov/ndaa_fy08.shtml) (ALL LOWERCASE).

6. POC IS LTJG YANIRA TIRADO, COMDT (CG-1311), PH: (202)475-5450, EMAIL: YANIRA.TIRADO(AT)USCG.MIL.

7. RDML D. R. MAY, DIRECTOR OF RESERVE AND TRAINING, SENDS.

8. INTERNET RELEASE AUTHORIZED.