

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 4021

To amend title 10, United States Code, to establish the Exceptional Family Member Program Advisory Council of the Department of Defense, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 17, 2021

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina (for himself and Mrs. LURIA) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services

A BILL

To amend title 10, United States Code, to establish the Exceptional Family Member Program Advisory Council of the Department of Defense, and for other purposes.

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 “Representation for Ex-
5 ceptional Military Families Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. ESTABLISHMENT OF EXCEPTIONAL FAMILY MEM-**
2 **BER PROGRAM ADVISORY COUNCIL.**

3 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—Chapter 7 of title 10, United
4 States Code, is amended by inserting before section 187
5 the following new section 186:

6 **“§ 186. Exceptional Family Member Program Advi-**
7 **sory Council**

8 “(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is an Exceptional
9 Family Member Program Advisory Council in the Depart-
10 ment of Defense (in this section referred to as the ‘Coun-
11 cil’).

12 “(b) PURPOSE.—The purpose of the Council is to
13 provide, to the Subcommittees on Military Personnel of
14 the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and
15 House of Representatives, the Secretary of Defense, and
16 the chiefs of the covered armed forces, recommendations
17 regarding how to improve the Exceptional Family Member
18 Program. The Council shall provide such recommenda-
19 tions not less than once every six months.

20 “(c) COMPOSITION.—The Council shall be composed
21 of the following:

22 “(1) One member of each covered armed
23 force—

24 “(A) serving on active duty;

25 “(B) who has a dependent—

1 “(i) enrolled in the Exceptional Fam-
2 ily Member Program; and

3 “(ii) with an individualized education
4 program; and

5 “(C) appointed by the Vice Chief of Staff
6 of the covered armed force concerned.

7 “(2) Two military spouses—

8 “(A) of members eligible to be appointed
9 under paragraph (1);

10 “(B) who are not civilian employees of the
11 Department of Defense;

12 “(C) one of whom is married to an enlisted
13 member and one of whom is married to an offi-
14 cer; and

15 “(D) appointed by the Vice Chief of Staff
16 of the covered armed force concerned.

17 “(3) One adult dependent—

18 “(A) enrolled in the Exceptional Family
19 Member Program; and

20 “(B) appointed by the Vice Chief of Staff
21 of the covered armed force concerned.

22 “(4) One representative of the Exceptional
23 Family Member Program Coalition.

24 “(5) One member of the Defense Health Agen-
25 cy.

1 “(6) One member of the Department of De-
2 fense Education Activity.

3 “(7) One member of the Office of Special
4 Needs.

5 “(d) APPOINTMENTS.—In making appointments
6 under subsection (c), the Vice Chief of Staff of the covered
7 armed force concerned shall seek to represent the diversity
8 of the disability community.

9 “(e) TERMS.—Each member of the Council shall
10 serve a term of two years, except one of the original mem-
11 bers appointed under subsection (c)(2), selected by the
12 Secretary of Defense at the time of appointment, shall be
13 appointed for a term of three years.

14 “(f) MEETINGS.—The Council shall meet at least
15 once every calendar quarter, in person or by teleconfer-
16 ence.

17 “(g) COVERED ARMED FORCE DEFINED.—In this
18 section, the term ‘covered armed force’ means an armed
19 force under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of a military
20 department.”.

21 (b) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

22 (1) TABLE OF SECTIONS.—The table of sections
23 at the beginning of such chapter is amended by in-
24 serting before the item relating to section 187 the
25 following new item:

“186. Exceptional Family Member Program Advisory Council.”.

1 (2) TERMINATION OF ADVISORY PANEL ON
2 COMMUNITY SUPPORT FOR MILITARY FAMILIES WITH
3 SPECIAL NEEDS.—Section 563 of the National De-
4 fense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2010 (Pub-
5 lic Law 111–84; 10 U.S.C. 1781e note) is amended
6 by striking subsection (d).

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