11

AMENDMENT TO H.R. 3619

OFFERED BY MR. LOBIONDO OF NEW JERSEY, AND MR. COBLE OF NORTH CAROLINA

Page 312, after line 22, add the following new title:

TITLE ____—SERVICEMEMBER BENEFITS IMPROVEMENT

SEC. __01. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the "United States Coast Guard Servicemember Benefits Improvements Act".

SEC. __02. COAST GUARD HOUSING.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating shall conduct a study of military family housing and military unaccompanied housing available to members and officers of the Coast Guard.

(b) COMPONENTS OF THE STUDY.—The study required in subsection (a) shall include—

(1) an inventory of all military family housing and military unaccompanied housing units administered by the Coast Guard and their locations;

(2) a review of the physical condition of such units;

1 (3) a review of the availability of housing units
2 administered by the Coast Guard to members and
3 officers assigned to field units of the Coast Guard;
4 (4) a review of the availability of housing units
5 administered by the other armed services to mem-
6 bers and officers assigned to field units of the Coast
7 Guard; and
8 (5) recommendations on statutory authorities
9 that are necessary to improve availability of military
10 housing to members and officers of the Coast Guard.
11 (c) REPORT.—The Secretary shall submit a report in-
12 cluding the findings and recommendations of the study re-
13 quired under subsection (a) to the Committee on Trans-
14 portation and Infrastructure of the House of Representa-
15 tives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and
16 Transportation of the Senate not later than 1 year after
17 the date of enactment of this Act.
18 **SEC. __03. CHILD DEVELOPMENT SERVICES.**
19 Section 515 of title 14, United States Code, is
20 amended—
21 (1) by striking subsection (b) and inserting the
22 following:
23 "(b)(1) The Commandant is authorized to use appro-
24 priated funds available to the Coast Guard to provide child
25 development services.

1 "(2)(A) The Commandant is authorized to establish,
2 by regulations, fees to be charged parents for the attend-
3 ance of children at Coast Guard child development centers.
4 "(B) Fees to be charged, pursuant to subparagraph
5 (A), shall be based on family income, except that the Com-
6 mandant may, on a case-by-base basis, establish fees at
7 lower rates if such rates would not be competitive with
8 rates at local child development centers.
9 "(C) The Commandant is authorized to collect and
10 expend fees, established pursuant to this subparagraph,
11 and such fees shall, without further appropriation, remain
12 available until expended for the purpose of providing serv-
13 ices, including the compensation of employees and the pur-
14 chase of consumable and disposable items, at Coast Guard
15 child development centers.
16 "(3) The Commandant is authorized to use appro-
17 priated funds available to the Coast Guard to provide as-
18 sistance to family home daycare providers so that family
19 home daycare services can be provided to uniformed
20 servicemembers and civilian employees of the Coast Guard
21 at a cost comparable to the cost of services provided by
22 Coast Guard child development centers.";
23 (2) by repealing subsections (d) and (e); and
24 (3) by redesignating subsections (f) and (g) as
25 subsections (d) and (e), respectively.

1 **SEC. __04. CHAPLAIN ACTIVITY EXPENSE.**

2 Section 145 of title 14, United States Code, is
3 amended—

4 (1) in subsection (a)—

5 (A) in paragraph (2), by striking "and" at
6 the end;

7 (B) in paragraph (3), by striking the pe-
8 riod at the end and inserting "; and"; and

9 (C) by adding at the end the following new
10 paragraph:

11 "(4) detail personnel from the Chaplain Corps
12 to provide services, pursuant to section 1789 of title
13 10, to the Coast Guard."; and

14 (2) by adding at the end the following new sub-
15 section:

16 "(d)(1) As part of the services provided by the Sec-
17 retary of the Navy pursuant to subsection (a)(4), the Sec-
18 retary may provide support services to chaplain-led pro-
19 grams to assist members of the Coast Guard on active
20 duty and their dependents, and members of the reserve
21 component in an active status and their dependents, in
22 building and maintaining a strong family structure.

23 "(2) In this subsection, the term 'support services'
24 include transportation, food, lodging, child care, supplies,
25 fees, and training materials for members of the Coast
26 Guard on active duty and their dependents, and members

1 of the reserve component in an active status and their de-
2 pendents, while participating in programs referred to in
3 paragraph (1), including participation at retreats and con-
4 ferences.

5 "(3) In this subsection, the term 'dependents' has the
6 same meaning as defined in section 1072(2) of title 10.".

7 **SEC. __05. COAST GUARD CROSS; SILVER STAR MEDAL.**

8 (a) COAST GUARD CROSS.—Chapter 13 of title 14,
9 United States Code, is amended by inserting after section
10 491 the following new section:

11 **"§ 491a. Coast Guard cross**

12 "The President may award a Coast Guard cross of
13 appropriate design, with ribbons and appurtenances, to a
14 person who, while serving in any capacity with the Coast
15 Guard, when the Coast Guard is not operating under the
16 Department of the Navy, distinguishes himself or herself
17 by extraordinary heroism not justifying the award of a
18 medal of honor—

19 "(1) while engaged in an action against an
20 enemy of the United States;

21 "(2) while engaged in military operations in-
22 volving conflict with an opposing foreign force or
23 international terrorist organization; or

24 "(3) while serving with friendly foreign forces
25 engaged in an armed conflict against an opposing

1 armed force in which the United States is not a bel-
2 ligerent party.".
3 (b) SILVER STAR MEDAL.—Such chapter is further
4 amended—
5 (1) by striking the heading of section 492a and
6 inserting the following:
7 **"§ 492b. Distinguished flying cross";**
8 and
9 (2) by inserting after section 492 the following
10 new section:
11 **"§ 492a. Silver star medal**
12 "The President may award a silver star medal of ap-
13 propriate design, with ribbons and appurtenances, to a
14 person who, while serving in any capacity with the Coast
15 Guard, when the Coast Guard is not operating under the
16 Department of the Navy, is cited for gallantry in action
17 that does not warrant a medal of honor or Coast Guard
18 cross—
19 "(1) while engaged in an action against an
20 enemy of the United States;
21 "(2) while engaged in military operations in-
22 volving conflict with an opposing foreign force or
23 international terrorist organization; or
24 "(3) while serving with friendly foreign forces
25 engaged in an armed conflict against an opposing

1 armed force in which the United States is not a bel-
2 ligerent party.".
3 (c) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Such chapter is
4 further amended—
5 (1) in section 494, by striking "distinguished
6 service medal, distinguished flying cross," and in-
7 serting "Coast Guard cross, distinguished service
8 medal, silver star medal, distinguished flying cross,"
9 in both places it appears;
10 (2) in section 496—
11 (A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1)
12 of subsection (a), by striking "distinguished
13 service medal, distinguished flying cross," and
14 inserting "Coast Guard cross, distinguished
15 service medal, silver star medal, distinguished
16 flying cross,"; and
17 (B) in subsection (b)(2), by striking "dis-
18 tinguished service medal, distinguished flying
19 cross," and inserting "Coast Guard cross, dis-
20 tinguished service medal, silver star medal, dis-
21 tinguished flying cross,"; and
22 (3) in section 497, by striking "distinguished
23 service medal, distinguished flying cross," and in-
24 serting "Coast Guard cross, distinguished service
25 medal, silver star medal, distinguished flying cross,".

1 (d) CLERICAL AMENDMENTS.—The analysis at the
2 beginning of such chapter is amended—
3 (1) by inserting after the item relating to sec-
4 tion 491 the following new item:

"491a. Coast Guard cross.".

5 (2) by striking the item relating to section 492a
6 and inserting the following new items:

"492a. Silver star medal.
"492b. Distinguished flying cross.".