

1 watchstations, including any planned or recommended  
2 changes in qualification standards for such watchstations.

3 (b) WATCHSTATIONS.—The watchstations covered by  
4 the report required by subsection (a) are the following:

- 5 (1) Officer of the Deck.
- 6 (2) Combat Information Center Watch Officer.
- 7 (3) Tactical Action Officer.
- 8 (4) Engineering Officer of the Watch.
- 9 (5) Conning Officer or Piloting Officer.

## 10 **Subtitle D—Military Justice**

### 11 **SEC. 531. INCLUSION OF STRANGULATION AND SUFFO-** 12 **CATION IN CONDUCT CONSTITUTING AGGRA-** 13 **VATED ASSAULT FOR PURPOSES OF THE UNI-** 14 **FORM CODE OF MILITARY JUSTICE.**

15 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (b) of section 928 of  
16 title 10, United States Code (article 128 of the Uniform  
17 Code of Military Justice), is amended—

18 (1) in paragraph (1), by striking “or” at the  
19 end;

20 (2) in paragraph (2), by adding “or” after the  
21 semicolon; and

22 (3) by inserting after paragraph (2) the fol-  
23 lowing new paragraph:

24 “(3) who commits an assault by strangulation  
25 or suffocation;”.

1 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by  
2 subsection (a) shall take effect on January 1, 2019, imme-  
3 diately after the coming into effect of the amendment  
4 made by section 5441 of the Military Justice Act of 2016  
5 (division E of Public Law 114–328; 130 Stat. 2954) as  
6 provided in section 5542 of that Act (130 Stat. 2967; 10  
7 U.S.C. 801 note).

8 **SEC. 532. PUNITIVE ARTICLE ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**  
9 **UNDER THE UNIFORM CODE OF MILITARY**  
10 **JUSTICE.**

11 (a) PUNITIVE ARTICLE.—

12 (1) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter X of chapter 47  
13 of title 10, United States Code (the Uniform Code  
14 of Military Justice), is amended by inserting after  
15 section 928a (article 128a) the following new section  
16 (article):

17 **“§ 928b. Art. 128b.**

18 “Any person who—

19 “(1) commits a violent offense against a spouse,  
20 an intimate partner, or an immediate family member  
21 of that person;

22 “(2) with intent to threaten or intimidate a  
23 spouse, an intimate partner, or an immediate family  
24 member of that person—

1           “(A) commits an offense under this chap-  
2           ter against any person; or

3           “(B) commits an offense under this chap-  
4           ter against any property, including an animal;

5           “(3) with intent to threaten or intimidate a  
6           spouse, an intimate partner, or an immediate family  
7           member of that person, violates a protection order;

8           “(4) with intent to commit a violent offense  
9           against a spouse, an intimate partner, or an imme-  
10          diate family member of that person, violates a pro-  
11          tection order; or

12          “(5) assaults a spouse, an intimate partner, or  
13          an immediate family member of that person by  
14          strangling or suffocating;

15 shall be punished as a court-martial may direct.”.

16          (2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sec-  
17          tions at the beginning of subchapter X of chapter 47  
18          of such title (the Uniform Code of Military Justice)  
19          is amended by inserting after the item relating to  
20          section 928a (article 128a) the following new item:

“928b. 128b. Domestic violence.”.

21          (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by  
22          this section shall take effect on January 1, 2019, imme-  
23          diately after the coming into effect of the amendments  
24          made by the Military Justice Act of 2016 (division E of

1 Public Law 114–328) as provided in section 5542 of that  
2 Act (130 Stat. 2967; 10 U.S.C. 801 note).

3 **SEC. 533. AUTHORITIES OF DEFENSE ADVISORY COM-**  
4 **MITTEE ON INVESTIGATION, PROSECUTION,**  
5 **AND DEFENSE OF SEXUAL ASSAULT IN THE**  
6 **ARMED FORCES.**

7 Section 546 of the Carl Levin and Howard P.  
8 “Buck” McKeon National Defense Authorization Act for  
9 Fiscal Year 2015 (10 U.S.C. 1561 note) is amended—

10 (1) by redesignating subsections (d) and (e) as  
11 subsections (e) and (f), respectively; and

12 (2) by inserting after subsection (c) the fol-  
13 lowing new subsection (d):

14 “(d) **AUTHORITIES.**—

15 “(1) **HEARINGS.**—The Advisory Committee may  
16 hold such hearings, sit and act at such times and  
17 places, take such testimony, and receive such evi-  
18 dence as the committee considers appropriate to  
19 carry out its duties under this section.

20 “(2) **INFORMATION FROM FEDERAL AGEN-**  
21 **CIES.**—Upon request by the chair of the Advisory  
22 Committee, a department or agency of the Federal  
23 Government shall provide information that the Advi-  
24 sory Committee considers necessary to carry out its  
25 duties under this section. In carrying out this para-

1 graph, the department or agency shall take steps to  
2 prevent the unauthorized disclosure of personally  
3 identifiable information.”.

4 **SEC. 534. REPORT ON FEASIBILITY OF EXPANDING SERV-**  
5 **ICES OF THE SPECIAL VICTIMS’ COUNSEL TO**  
6 **VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE.**

7 (a) REPORT REQUIRED.—Not later than February 1,  
8 2019, the Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the  
9 Secretaries of the military departments, shall submit a re-  
10 port to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate  
11 and House of Representatives regarding the feasibility and  
12 advisability of expanding eligibility for the Special Victims’  
13 Counsel programs under section 1044e of title 10, United  
14 States Code (hereinafter referred to as “the SVC pro-  
15 grams”), to include victims of domestic violence.

16 (b) ELEMENTS.—The report under this section shall  
17 include the following:

18 (1) The current workload of the SVC programs.

19 (2) An analysis of the current personnel author-  
20 izations for the SVC programs.

21 (3) The optimal personnel levels for the SVC  
22 programs.

23 (4) An analysis of the effects that the expan-  
24 sion described in subsection (a) would have on the  
25 SVC programs, including—

1 (A) the estimated increase in workload;

2 (B) the estimated number of additional  
3 personnel that would be required to accommo-  
4 date such increase; and

5 (C) the ability of the military departments  
6 to fill any additionally authorized billets for  
7 SVC programs with qualified judge advocates  
8 who possess military justice experience.

9 **SEC. 535. UNIFORM COMMAND ACTION FORM ON DISPOSI-**  
10 **TION OF UNRESTRICTED SEXUAL ASSAULT**  
11 **CASES INVOLVING MEMBERS OF THE ARMED**  
12 **FORCES.**

13 The Secretary of Defense shall establish a uniform  
14 command action form, applicable across the Armed  
15 Forces, for reporting the final disposition of cases of sex-  
16 ual assault in which—

17 (1) the alleged offender is a member of the  
18 Armed Forces; and

19 (2) the victim files an unrestricted report on  
20 the alleged assault.

21 **SEC. 536. STANDARDIZATION OF POLICIES RELATED TO EX-**  
22 **PEDITED TRANSFER IN CASES OF SEXUAL AS-**  
23 **SAULT OR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE.**

24 (a) **POLICIES FOR MEMBERS.**—The Secretary of De-  
25 fense shall modify, in accordance with section 673 of title

1 10, United States Code, all policies that the Secretary de-  
2 termines necessary to establish a standardized expedited  
3 transfer process for a member of the Army, Navy, Air  
4 Force, or Marine Corps who is the alleged victim of—

5 (1) sexual assault (regardless of whether the  
6 case is handled under the Sexual Assault Prevention  
7 and Response Program or Family Advocacy Pro-  
8 gram); or

9 (2) physical domestic violence (as defined by  
10 the Secretary in regulations prescribed under this  
11 section) committed by the spouse or intimate part-  
12 ner of the member, regardless of whether the spouse  
13 or intimate partner is a member of the Armed  
14 Forces.

15 (b) POLICY FOR DEPENDENTS OF MEMBERS.—The  
16 Secretary of Defense shall establish a policy to allow the  
17 transfer of a member of the Army, Navy, Air Force, or  
18 Marine Corps whose dependent is the victim of sexual as-  
19 sault perpetrated by a member of the Armed Forces who  
20 is not related to the victim.