

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 regard 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 commends 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