



Unity Through Service Act

Introduced by Reps. Houlahan, Panetta, Waltz, and Bergman

Background:

The 2017 National Defense Authorization Act established the National Commission on Military, National, and Public Service to "conduct a review of the military selective service process" and to "consider methods to increase participation in military, national, and public service to address national security and other public service needs of the Nation." The Commission published its final report and recommendations just as the pandemic began to grip the nation. It set a ten-year goal for five million Americans to begin participating in military, national, or public service each year.

Additionally, the Commission set targets for ensuring there are more than enough qualified individuals seeking to serve in the Armed Forces and for modernizing government personnel systems to attract and enable Americans with critical skills to enter public service. The *Unity through Service Act* would provide the architecture and focus to mobilize a whole of government approach to achieving these goals and foster trust and confidence in elections for all political parties.

Bill Summary:

The [*Unity Through Service Act*](#) establishes the Interagency Council on Service to coordinate and lead initiatives that extend across military, national, and public service. The Council will be tasked with preparing and submitting to the President a national strategy on service, including a review of current programs, initiatives and online content.

It also authorizes a joint advertising, market research, and recruiting program with Department of Defense (DOD), the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS), and the Peace Corps for sharing market research and information. Enhances information provided to transitioning military members and AmeriCorps members about service opportunities open to them. Requires a quadrennial report to Congress on initiatives to integrate military, national, and public service.

Contact Information:

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