

Public Law 845

CHAPTER 789

AN ACT

July 30, 1956
[H. R. 7290]

To authorize female Reserve officers of the Army or Air Force appointed as nurses or women medical specialists to be members of the Army National Guard of the United States or Air National Guard of the United States, as appropriate.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section 57 of the Act of June 3, 1916, as amended (32 U. S. C. 1), is further amended by inserting after the words "forty-five years of age," the words "and of female citizens of the United States who are appointed as commissioned officers of the National Guard under section 58 of this Act."

Army and Air
Force nurses, etc.
National Guard
membership.
39 Stat. 197.
Infra.

SEC. 2. Section 58 of the Act of June 3, 1916, as amended (32 U. S. C. 4), is further amended as follows:

48 Stat. 155.

(a) Insert the word "male" immediately before the word "citizens" where it appears in that section; and

(b) Delete the colon preceding the proviso at the end of the section, substitute a comma in lieu thereof and insert the words "and female commissioned officers appointed to serve as nurses and medical specialists who are citizens of the United States, at least twenty-one years of age, are graduates of hospitals or university training schools and registered nurses if appointed to serve as nurses, and have the physical and other qualifications prescribed by the Secretary of the Army:".

SEC. 3. The amendments made by section 1 and section 2 of this Act apply to the Air National Guard of the several States, Territories, and the District of Columbia, and the authority granted therein to the Secretary of the Army with respect to the National Guard is granted to the Secretary of the Air Force with respect to the Air National Guard.

Air National
Guard.

SEC. 4. The Armed Forces Reserve Act of 1952 is amended as follows:

(a) The first sentence of subsection 217 (b) (66 Stat. 486; 50 U. S. C. 941 (b)) is amended to read as follows: "Subject to section 222 (a) of this Act and if otherwise qualified, women may be appointed as Reserve officers of the Army or Air Force for service as nurses or medical specialists in the National Guard of the United States or Air National Guard of the United States, as appropriate. Women may be appointed or enlisted as Reserves in the Armed Forces of the United States for service in the Army Reserve, the Naval Reserve, the Marine Corps Reserve, and the Air Force Reserve. Women are appointed or enlisted in the grades, ranks, and rating authorized for women in the Regular component of the appropriate Armed Force of the United States."

66 Stat. 487.
50 USC 946.

(b) A new section 715 is added as follows:

"SEC. 715. Except as otherwise specifically provided, laws applicable to male officers and former officers of the National Guard of the United States or the Air National Guard of the United States, and to their dependents and beneficiaries apply in like cases to female Reserve officers and female former Reserve officers of the National Guard of the United States or the Air National Guard of the United States, respectively, and to their dependents and beneficiaries. The husband of a female member of the National Guard of the United States or the Air National Guard of the United States may not be considered a dependent unless he is in fact dependent on his wife for over half of his support, and the child of such a member may not be considered a dependent unless he is in fact dependent on his mother for over half of his support."

Applicability to
female officers.

Dependents.

Approved July 30, 1956.