

FY14 NDAA (Command Climate Entries)

SEC. 587.

IMPROVED CLIMATE ASSESSMENTS AND DISSEMINATION OF RESULTS.

(a) **IMPROVED DISSEMINATION OF RESULTS IN CHAIN OF COMMAND.**—The Secretary of Defense shall ensure that the results of command climate assessments are provided to the relevant individual commander and to the next higher level of command.

(b) **EVIDENCE OF COMPLIANCE.**—The Secretary of each military department shall require in the performance evaluations and assessments used by each Armed Force under the jurisdiction of the Secretary a statement by the commander regarding whether the commander has conducted the required command climate assessments.

(c) **EFFECT OF FAILURE TO CONDUCT ASSESSMENT.**—The failure of a commander to conduct the required command climate assessments shall be noted in the commander's performance evaluation.

SEC. 1721.

TRACKING OF COMPLIANCE OF COMMANDING OFFICERS IN CONDUCTING ORGANIZATIONAL CLIMATE ASSESSMENTS FOR PURPOSES OF PREVENTING AND RESPONDING TO SEXUAL ASSAULTS

Section 572 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2013 (Public Law 112–239; 126 Stat. 1753; 10 U.S.C. 1561note) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(d) **TRACKING OF ORGANIZATIONAL CLIMATE ASSESSMENT COMPLIANCE.**—The Secretary of Defense shall direct the Secretaries of the military departments to verify and track the compliance of commanding officers in conducting organizational climate assessments, as required by subsection (a)(3).”.

SEC. 1751.

SENSE OF CONGRESS ON COMMANDING OFFICER RESPONSIBILITY FOR COMMAND CLIMATE FREE OF RETALIATION.

It is the sense of Congress that—

- (1) commanding officers in the Armed Forces are responsible for establishing a command climate in which sexual assault allegations are properly managed and fairly evaluated and in which a victim can report criminal activity, including sexual assault, without fear of retaliation, including ostracism and group pressure from other members of the command;
- (2) the failure of commanding officers to maintain such a command climate is an appropriate basis for relief from their command positions; and
- (3) senior officers should evaluate subordinate commanding officers on their performance in establishing a command climate as described in paragraph (1) during the regular periodic counseling and performance appraisal process prescribed by the Armed Force concerned for inclusion in the systems of records maintained and used for assignment and promotion selection boards.