

(5) the Secretary of Homeland Security; and  
(6) the Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

Members of the council shall serve without additional compensation.

(b) The council shall meet at least once a year, or more often at the call of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs. The council shall review the operations of the Department under this subchapter and shall advise the Secretary on matters of policy relating to the Secretary's activities under this subchapter.

(Added Pub. L. 89-214, §1(a), Sept. 29, 1965, 79 Stat. 885, §774; amended Pub. L. 91-291, §6, June 25, 1970, 84 Stat. 331; Pub. L. 93-289, §10(3), May 24, 1974, 88 Stat. 172; Pub. L. 97-295, §4(95)(A), Oct. 12, 1982, 96 Stat. 1313; Pub. L. 99-576, title VII, §701(41), Oct. 28, 1986, 100 Stat. 3294; Pub. L. 102-54, §14(b)(18), June 13, 1991, 105 Stat. 284; renumbered §1974, Pub. L. 102-83, §5(a), Aug. 6, 1991, 105 Stat. 406; Pub. L. 104-275, title IV, §405(b)(1)(G), (2)(B), Oct. 9, 1996, 110 Stat. 3339; Pub. L. 108-183, title VII, §708(a)(4), Dec. 16, 2003, 117 Stat. 2673.)

#### AMENDMENTS

2003—Subsec. (a)(5). Pub. L. 108-183 substituted “Secretary of Homeland Security” for “Secretary of Transportation”.

1996—Pub. L. 104-275, §405(b)(2)(B), substituted “Servicemembers’ Group” for “Servicemen’s Group” in section catchline.

Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 104-275, §405(b)(1)(G), substituted “Servicemembers’ Group” for “Servicemen’s Group” in introductory provisions.

1991—Pub. L. 102-83 renumbered section 774 of this title as this section.

Pub. L. 102-54 amended section generally. Prior to amendment, section read as follows: “There is hereby established an Advisory Council on Servicemen’s Group Life Insurance consisting of the Secretary of the Treasury as Chairman, the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of Commerce, the Secretary of Health and Human Services, the Secretary of Transportation, and the Director of the Office of Management and Budget each of whom shall serve without additional compensation. The Council shall meet once a year, or oftener at the call of the Administrator, and shall review the operations under this subchapter and advise the Administrator on matters of policy relating to the Administrator activities thereunder.”

1986—Pub. L. 99-576 substituted “the Administrator” for “his” before “activities”.

1982—Pub. L. 97-295 substituted “Health and Human Services” for “Health, Education, and Welfare”.

1974—Pub. L. 93-289 substituted “Office of Management and Budget” for “Bureau of the Budget”.

1970—Pub. L. 91-291 added the Secretary of Transportation to the membership of the Advisory Council on Servicemen’s Group Life Insurance.

#### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1970 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 91-291 effective June 25, 1970, see section 14(a) of Pub. L. 91-291, set out as a note under section 1317 of this title.

#### TERMINATION OF ADVISORY COUNCILS

Advisory councils in existence on Jan. 5, 1973, to terminate not later than the expiration of the 2-year period following Jan. 5, 1973, unless, in the case of a council established by the President or an officer of the Federal Government, such council is renewed by appropriate action prior to the expiration of such 2-year period, or in the case of a council established by the Congress, its duration is otherwise provided by law. See

sections 3(2) and 14 of Pub. L. 92-463, Oct. 6, 1972, 86 Stat. 770, 776, set out in the Appendix to Title 5, Government Organization and Employees.

#### § 1975. Jurisdiction of District Courts

The district courts of the United States shall have original jurisdiction of any civil action or claim against the United States founded upon this subchapter.

(Added Pub. L. 89-214, §1(a), Sept. 29, 1965, 79 Stat. 885, §775; renumbered §1975, Pub. L. 102-83, §5(a), Aug. 6, 1991, 105 Stat. 406.)

#### AMENDMENTS

1991—Pub. L. 102-83 renumbered section 775 of this title as this section.

#### § 1976. Effective date

The insurance provided for in this subchapter and the deductions and contributions for that purpose shall take effect on the date designated by the Secretary and certified by the Secretary to each Secretary concerned.

(Added Pub. L. 89-214, §1(a), Sept. 29, 1965, 79 Stat. 885, §776; amended Pub. L. 99-576, title VII, §701(42), Oct. 28, 1986, 100 Stat. 3294; renumbered §1976 and amended Pub. L. 102-83, §§4(b)(1), (2)(E), 5(a), Aug. 6, 1991, 105 Stat. 404-406.)

#### AMENDMENTS

1991—Pub. L. 102-83, §5(a), renumbered section 776 of this title as this section and substituted “Secretary” for “Administrator” in two places.

1986—Pub. L. 99-576 substituted “the Administrator” for “him” after “certified by”.

#### INTERIM COVERAGE UNTIL EFFECTIVE DATE OF GROUP PLAN; \$5,000 DEATH GRATUITY

Section 3 of Pub. L. 89-214, as amended by Pub. L. 89-730, §6(a)-(d), Nov. 2, 1966, 80 Stat. 1159, provided for payment of a death gratuity of up to \$5,000 in certain cases of death of veterans while in active military, naval, or air service during the period from Jan. 1, 1957, to the date immediately preceding the date on which the Servicemen’s Group Life Insurance program was placed in effect under this section, and required that an application for such gratuity had to be made within one year after Sept. 29, 1965.

Pub. L. 89-730, §6(e), Nov. 2, 1966, 80 Stat. 1159, provided that any waiver of future benefits executed by any person under section 3(a) of Pub. L. 89-214 (see above), as in effect prior to Nov. 2, 1966, was to have no effect.

Pub. L. 89-730, §6(f), Nov. 2, 1966, 80 Stat. 1159, provided that in any case in which the death gratuity paid to any person under section 3 of Pub. L. 89-214 (see above), was reduced pursuant to clause (B) of subsection (c)(1) of such section, as in effect prior to Nov. 2, 1966, the Administrator of Veterans’ Affairs was to pay to such person an amount equal to the amount by which such death gratuity was reduced.

Pub. L. 89-730, §6(g), Nov. 2, 1966, 80 Stat. 1159, provided that notwithstanding the time limitation prescribed in section 3(a) of Pub. L. 89-214 (see above), any application for death gratuity filed under such section shall be valid if filed within one year after Nov. 2, 1966.

#### § 1977. Veterans’ Group Life Insurance

(a)(1) Veterans’ Group Life Insurance shall be issued in the amounts specified in section 1967(a) of this title. In the case of any individual, the amount of Veterans’ Group Life Insurance may not exceed the amount of Servicemembers’