

“SEC. 706. TERMINATION OF COMMISSION.

“The Commission shall terminate 90 days after the date on which it submits its report under section 702(d)(2).

“SEC. 707. DEFINITIONS.

“For the purposes of this title:

“(1) The term ‘veterans transition assistance and benefits program’ means any program of the Government the purpose of which is—

“(A) to assist, by rehabilitation or other means, members of the Armed Forces in readjusting or otherwise making the transition to civilian life upon their separation from service in the Armed Forces; or

“(B) to assist veterans in making the transition to civilian life.

“(2) The term ‘Armed Forces’ has the meaning given such term in section 101(10) of title 38, United States Code.

“(3) The term ‘veteran’ has the meaning given such term in section 101(2) of title 38, United States Code.

“(4) The term ‘veterans service organization’ means any organization covered by section 5902(a) of title 38, United States Code.

“SEC. 708. FUNDING.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Defense shall, upon the request of the chairman of the Commission, make available to the Commission such amounts as the Commission may require to carry out its duties under this title. The Secretary shall make such amounts available from amounts appropriated for the Department of Defense, except that such amounts may not be from amounts appropriated for the transition assistance program (TAP), the Army career alumni program (ACAP), or any similar program.

“(b) AVAILABILITY.—Any sums made available to the Commission under subsection (a) shall remain available, without fiscal year limitation, until the termination of the Commission.”

ORIGINAL MEMBERS OF ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Section 333(b) of Pub. L. 104-262 provided that:

“(1) Notwithstanding subsection (a)(2) of section 545 of title 38, United States Code (as added by subsection (a)), the members of the Advisory Committee on the Readjustment of Vietnam and Other War Veterans on the date of the enactment of this Act [Oct. 9, 1996] shall be the original members of the advisory committee recognized under such section.

“(2) The original members shall so serve until the Secretary of Veterans Affairs carries out appointments under such subsection (a)(2). The Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall carry out such appointments as soon after such date as is practicable. The Secretary may make such appointments from among such original members.”

**§ 546. Advisory Committee on Disability Compensation**

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—(1) There is in the Department the Advisory Committee on Disability Compensation (in this section referred to as the “Committee”).

(2) The Committee shall consist of not more than 18 members appointed by the Secretary from among individuals who—

(A) have experience with the provision of disability compensation by the Department; or

(B) are leading medical or scientific experts in relevant fields.

(3)(A) Except as provided in subparagraph (B), the Secretary shall determine the terms of service and pay and allowances of the members of the Committee.

(B) A term of service may not exceed four years and shall be staggered to ensure that the dates for the termination of the members’ terms are not all the same.

(C) The Secretary may reappoint any member for one or more additional terms of service.

(4) The Secretary shall select a Chair from among the members of the Committee.

(b) RESPONSIBILITIES OF COMMITTEE.—(1) The Secretary shall, on a regular basis, consult with and seek the advice of the Committee with respect to the maintenance and periodic readjustment of the schedule for rating disabilities under section 1155 of this title.

(2)(A) In providing advice to the Secretary under this subsection, the Committee shall—

(i) assemble and review relevant information relating to the needs of veterans with disabilities;

(ii) provide information relating to the nature and character of disabilities arising from service in the Armed Forces;

(iii) provide an on-going assessment of the effectiveness of the schedule for rating disabilities; and

(iv) provide on-going advice on the most appropriate means of responding to the needs of veterans relating to disability compensation in the future.

(B) In carrying out its duties under subparagraph (A), the Committee shall take into special account the needs of veterans who have served in a theater of combat operations.

(c) RESOURCES.—The Secretary shall ensure that appropriate personnel, funding, and other resources are provided to the Committee to carry out its responsibilities.

(d) BIENNIAL REPORTS TO THE SECRETARY.—(1) Not later than October 31, 2010, and not less frequently than every two years thereafter, the Committee shall submit to the Secretary a report on the programs and activities of the Department that relate to the payment of disability compensation. Each such report shall include—

(A) an assessment of the needs of veterans with respect to disability compensation; and

(B) such recommendations (including recommendations for administrative or legislative action) as the Committee considers appropriate.

(2) The Committee may submit to the Secretary such other reports and recommendations as the Committee considers appropriate.

(e) BIENNIAL REPORTS TO CONGRESS.—(1) Not later than 90 days after the receipt of a report required under subsection (d)(1), the Secretary shall transmit to the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs of the House of Representatives a copy of such report, together with such comments and recommendations concerning such report as the Secretary considers appropriate.

(2) The Secretary shall submit with each report required under paragraph (1) a summary of all reports and recommendations of the Committee submitted to the Secretary under subsection (d)(2) since the previous report transmitted by the Secretary under paragraph (1) of this subsection.

(f) APPLICABILITY OF FEDERAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE ACT.—(1) Except as provided in paragraph (2), the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.) shall apply to the activities of the Committee under this section.

(2) Section 14 of such Act shall not apply to the Committee.

(Added Pub. L. 110-389, title II, §214(a), Oct. 10, 2008, 122 Stat. 4152.)

#### REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Federal Advisory Committee Act, referred to in subsec. (f), is Pub. L. 92-463, Oct. 6, 1972, 86 Stat. 770, which is set out in the Appendix to Title 5, Government Organization and Employees.

#### PRIOR PROVISIONS

Prior sections 560 to 562 were renumbered sections 1560 to 1562 of this title, respectively.

Prior sections 601 to 603 and 610 to 613 were renumbered sections 1701 to 1703 and 1710 to 1713 of this title, respectively.

Another prior section 613, Pub. L. 85-857, Sept. 2, 1958, 72 Stat. 1143, related to fitting and training in use of prosthetic appliances, prior to repeal by section 103(b) of Pub. L. 93-82. See section 1714(a) of this title.

Prior sections 614 to 620C were renumbered sections 1714 to 1720C of this title, respectively.

Another prior section 620C, added Pub. L. 100-6, §2(a), Feb. 12, 1987, 101 Stat. 92, related to community-based psychiatric residential treatment for chronically mentally ill veterans, prior to repeal by Pub. L. 100-322, title I, §115(g)(1), May 20, 1988, 102 Stat. 502. See section 115(a)-(f) of Pub. L. 100-322, set out as a note under section 1712 of this title.

Prior sections 621 to 624 were renumbered sections 1721 to 1724 of this title, respectively.

Prior section 625, Pub. L. 85-857, Sept. 2, 1958, 72 Stat. 1144; Pub. L. 91-24, §6(a), June 11, 1969, 83 Stat. 34, related to arrests for crimes in hospital and domiciliary reservations, prior to repeal by Pub. L. 93-43, §§4(b), 10(a), June 18, 1973, 87 Stat. 79, 88, effective June 18, 1973.

Prior sections 626 to 631 were renumbered sections 1726 to 1731 of this title, respectively.

Another prior section 631, Pub. L. 85-857, Sept. 2, 1958, 72 Stat. 1145; Pub. L. 91-24, §6(b), June 11, 1969, 83 Stat. 34, related to grants to the Republic of the Philippines, prior to repeal by section 107(a) of Pub. L. 93-82.

Prior section 632 was renumbered section 1732 of this title.

Another prior section 632, Pub. L. 85-857, Sept. 2, 1958, 72 Stat. 1146; Pub. L. 88-40, June 13, 1963, 77 Stat. 66; Pub. L. 89-612, §2, Sept. 30, 1966, 80 Stat. 859; Pub. L. 91-24, §6(c), June 11, 1969, 83 Stat. 34, related to modification of agreement with the Republic of the Philippines effectuating the Act of July 1, 1948, prior to repeal by section 107(a) of Pub. L. 93-82.

Prior sections 633 to 635 and 641 to 643 were renumbered sections 1733 to 1735 and 1741 to 1743 of this title, respectively.

Prior section 644, added Pub. L. 91-178, §2(a), Dec. 30, 1969, 83 Stat. 836; amended Pub. L. 93-82, title IV, §403(b), Aug. 2, 1973, 87 Stat. 196, authorized appropriations to be used for making grants to States which had submitted and had approved applications for assistance in remodeling, modification, or alteration of existing hospital or domiciliary facilities in State homes providing care and treatment for veterans, prior to repeal by Pub. L. 95-62, §§2, 5, July 5, 1977, 91 Stat. 262, 263, effective Oct. 1, 1977, but with provision for the continuing force and effect of the terms and conditions of grants made prior to Oct. 1, 1977, under prior section 644 and with additional provision for the modification of the terms and conditions of both grants made under that section prior to Oct. 1, 1977, and of grants made under subchapter III of chapter 81 of this title prior to Oct. 1, 1977.

Prior sections 651 to 654 and 661 to 664 were renumbered sections 1751 to 1754 and 1761 to 1764 of this title, respectively.

## CHAPTER 7—EMPLOYEES

Sec.	
701.	Placement of employees in military installations.
703.	Miscellaneous authorities respecting employees.
705.	Telephone service for medical officers and facility directors.
707.	Benefits for employees at overseas offices who are United States citizens.
709.	Employment restrictions.
711.	Grade reductions.
[712.]	Repealed.]

#### AMENDMENTS

2001—Pub. L. 107-103, title V, §509(a)(2), Dec. 27, 2001, 115 Stat. 997, struck out item 712 “Full-time equivalent positions: limitation on reduction”.

1994—Pub. L. 103-446, title XI, §1102(b), Nov. 2, 1994, 108 Stat. 4681, added item 712.

### § 701. Placement of employees in military installations

The Secretary may place employees of the Department in such Army, Navy, and Air Force installations as may be considered advisable for the purpose of adjudicating disability claims of, and giving aid and advice to, members of the Armed Forces who are about to be discharged or released from active military, naval, or air service.

(Added Pub. L. 102-83, §2(a), Aug. 6, 1991, 105 Stat. 394.)

#### PRIOR PROVISIONS

Prior sections 701 and 702 were renumbered sections 1901 and 1902 of this title, respectively.

Provisions similar to those in this section were contained in section 231 of this title prior to repeal by Pub. L. 102-83, §2(a).

### § 703. Miscellaneous authorities respecting employees

(a) The Secretary may furnish and launder such wearing apparel as may be prescribed for employees in the performance of their official duties.

(b) The Secretary may transport children of Department employees located at isolated stations to and from school in available Government-owned automotive equipment.

(c) The Secretary may provide recreational facilities, supplies, and equipment for the use of patients in hospitals and employees in isolated installations.

(d) The Secretary may provide for the preparation, shipment, installation, and display of exhibits, photographic displays, moving pictures, and other visual educational information and descriptive material. For the purposes of the preceding sentence, the Secretary may purchase or rent equipment.

(e) The Secretary may reimburse employees for the cost of repairing or replacing their personal property damaged or destroyed by patients or domiciliary members while such employees are engaged in the performance of their official duties.

(f)(1) The Secretary, upon determining that an emergency situation exists and that such action is necessary for the effective conduct of the affairs of the Department, may use Government-