

Secretary concerned may revoke an election made by him on behalf of a mentally incompetent member when it is established to his satisfaction that such election has resulted in undue hardship. A retired member whose election is revoked under this Act shall have refunded to him a sum which represents the difference between the amount by which his retired pay has been reduced in accordance with his election and the cost of an amount of term insurance which is equal to the protection provided his dependents during the period his election was in effect. A retired member whose election is revoked under this Act shall not thereafter be permitted to be covered in any way under the Uniformed Services Contingency Option Act of 1953.

SEC. 2. Terms used in this Act shall have the meaning assigned to them by the Uniformed Services Contingency Option Act of 1953.

SEC. 3. Payments of the refunds authorized by this Act may be made from appropriate current appropriations.

Approved August 28, 1954.

Public Law 697

CHAPTER 1048

AN ACT

August 28, 1954
[H. R. 9790]

To amend the Act of June 30, 1948, so as to extend for one year the authority of the Secretary of the Interior to issue patents for certain public lands in Monroe County, Michigan, held under color of title.

Monroe County,
Mich.

Land patents.
67 Stat. 581.

Effective date.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Act entitled "An Act authorizing the Secretary of the Interior to issue patents for lands held under color of title", approved June 30, 1948 (Public Law 856, Eightieth Congress), as amended, is amended by striking out "within six years after passage of this Act" and inserting in lieu thereof "within seven years after passage of this Act".

SEC. 2. The amendment made by the first section of this Act shall take effect as of June 29, 1954.

Approved August 28, 1954.

Public Law 698

CHAPTER 1049

AN ACT

August 28, 1954
[H. R. 9962]

To increase by 5 per centum the rates of pension payable to veterans and their dependents.

Veterans' pen-
sions.
Increase.

Effective date.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That (a) all monthly rates of pension for disability, age, or death payable to veterans or their dependents under any public law administered by the Veterans' Administration are hereby increased by 5 per centum, subject to the provisions of subsection (b) of this section.

(b) Subsection (a) shall not apply to pension payable under sections 4756 or 4757 of the Revised Statutes, as amended (38 U. S. C. 229, 230), the Act of April 27, 1916 (39 Stat. 53), as amended (38 U. S. C. 391 and the following), or the Act of February 28, 1929 (45 Stat. 1409).

SEC. 2. This Act shall take effect on the first day of the second calendar month following the date of its enactment.

Approved August 28, 1954.