

eligibility [sic] of the recipient of such annuity for such pension, even though, as a result of including the amount of the annuity as income, no amount of such pension is due.

“(d) Subsection 1450(i) and section 1453 as added to title 10, United States Code, by clause 3 of the first section of this Act, are applicable to persons covered by this section.

“(e)(1) Payment of annuities under this section shall be made by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs. In making such payments, the Secretary shall combine with the payment under this section payment of any amount due the same person under section 653(d) of the National Defense Authorization Act, Fiscal Year 1989 [Pub. L. 100-456] (10 U.S.C. 1448 note). If appropriate for administrative convenience (or otherwise determined appropriate by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs), that Secretary may combine a payment to any person for any month under this section (and, if applicable, under section 653(d) of the National Defense Authorization Act, Fiscal Year 1989) with any other payment for that month under laws administered by the Secretary so as to provide that person with a single payment for that month.

“(2) The Secretary concerned shall annually transfer to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs such amounts as may be necessary for payments by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs under this section and for costs of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs in administering this section. Such transfers shall be made from amounts that would otherwise be used for payment of annuities by the Secretary concerned under this section. The authority to make such a transfer is in addition to any other authority of the Secretary concerned to transfer funds for a purpose other than the purpose for which the funds were originally made available. In the case of a transfer by the Secretary of a military department, the provisions of section 2215 of title 10, United States Code, do not apply.

“(3) The Secretary concerned shall promptly notify the Secretary of Veterans Affairs of any change in beneficiaries under this section.”

[Section 638(d) of Pub. L. 104-201 provided that: “The amendments made by this section [amending section 4 of Pub. L. 92-425, set out above] take effect on July 1, 1997, and apply with respect to payments of benefits for any month after June 1997.”]

[Section 942(b) of Pub. L. 98-94 provided that: “Any annuity payable by reason of subsection (a) [amending section 4(a)(1) of Pub. L. 92-425, set out above] shall be payable only for months after September 1983.”]

#### END OF 90-DAY PERIOD WITH RESPECT TO CERTAIN INDIVIDUALS

The 90-day period, referred to in subsec. (a)(2), (4)(B), with respect to certain individuals shall be considered to end on Mar. 31, 1980, see section 208 of Pub. L. 95-397, set out as a note under section 1447 of this title.

#### § 1448a. Election to discontinue participation: one-year opportunity after second anniversary of commencement of payment of retired pay

(a) **AUTHORITY.**—A participant in the Plan may, subject to the provisions of this section, elect to discontinue participation in the Plan at any time during the one-year period beginning on the second anniversary of the date on which payment of retired pay to the participant commences.

(b) **CONCURRENCE OF SPOUSE.**—

(1) **CONCURRENCE REQUIRED.**—A married participant may not (except as provided in paragraph (2)) make an election under subsection (a) without the concurrence of the participant's spouse.

(2) **EXCEPTIONS.**—A participant may make such an election without the concurrence of

the participant's spouse by establishing to the satisfaction of the Secretary concerned that one of the conditions specified in section 1448(a)(3)(C) of this title exists.

(3) **FORM OF CONCURRENCE.**—The concurrence of a spouse under paragraph (1) shall be made in such written form and shall contain such information as may be required under regulations prescribed by the Secretary of Defense.

(c) **LIMITATION ON ELECTION WHEN FORMER SPOUSE COVERAGE IN EFFECT.**—The limitation set forth in section 1450(f)(2) of this title applies to an election to discontinue participation in the Plan under subsection (a).

(d) **WITHDRAWAL OF ELECTION TO DISCONTINUE.**—Section 1448(b)(1)(D) of this title applies to an election under subsection (a).

(e) **CONSEQUENCES OF DISCONTINUATION.**—Section 1448(b)(1)(E) of this title applies to an election under subsection (a).

(f) **NOTICE TO AFFECTED BENEFICIARIES.**—The Secretary concerned shall notify any former spouse or other natural person previously designated under section 1448(b) of this title of an election to discontinue participation under subsection (a).

(g) **EFFECTIVE DATE OF ELECTION.**—An election under subsection (a) is effective as of the first day of the first calendar month following the month in which the election is received by the Secretary concerned.

(h) **INAPPLICABILITY OF IRREVOCABILITY PROVISIONS.**—Paragraphs (4)(B) and (5)(C) of section 1448(a) of this title do not apply to prevent an election under subsection (a).

(Added Pub. L. 105-85, div. A, title VI, § 641(a)(1), Nov. 18, 1997, 111 Stat. 1797.)

#### EFFECTIVE DATE

Section 641(c) of Pub. L. 105-85 provided that: “Section 1448a of title 10, United States Code, as added by subsection (a), shall take effect 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act [Nov. 18, 1997].”

#### TRANSITION PROVISION FOR CURRENT PARTICIPANTS

Section 641(b) of Pub. L. 105-85 provided that: “Notwithstanding the limitation on the time for making an election under section 1448a of title 10, United States Code (as added by subsection (a)), that is specified in subsection (a) of such section, a participant in the Survivor Benefit Plan under subchapter II of chapter 73 of such title may make an election in accordance with that section within one year after the effective date of that section under subsection (c) [set out as an Effective Date note above] if the second anniversary of the commencement of payment of retired pay to the participant precedes that effective date.”

#### § 1449. Mental incompetency of member

(a) **ELECTION BY SECRETARY CONCERNED ON BEHALF OF MENTALLY INCOMPETENT MEMBER.**—If a person to whom section 1448 of this title applies is determined to be mentally incompetent by medical officers of the armed force concerned or of the Department of Veterans Affairs, or by a court of competent jurisdiction, an election described in subsection (a)(2) or (b) of section 1448 of this title may be made on behalf of that person by the Secretary concerned.

(b) **REVOCATION OF ELECTION BY MEMBER.**—

(1) **AUTHORITY UPON SUBSEQUENT DETERMINATION OF MENTAL COMPETENCE.**—If a person for