

**(d) Reduction of State benefits**

No benefits shall be paid under this part to the residents of any State which, after December 30, 1969, reduces the benefits payable to persons eligible to receive benefits under this part, under its State laws which are applicable to its general work force with regard to workmen's compensation, unemployment compensation, or disability insurance.

**(e) Conditions upon payment**

No benefits shall be payable to a widow, child, parent, brother, or sister under this part on account of the death of a miner unless (1) benefits under this part were being paid to such miner with respect to disability due to pneumoconiosis prior to his death, (2) the death of such miner occurred prior to January 1, 1974, or (3) any such individual is entitled to benefits under paragraph (5) of section 921(c) of this title.

(Pub. L. 91-173, title IV, §414, Dec. 30, 1969, 83 Stat. 795; Pub. L. 92-303, §§1(c)(1), (6), 5(1)-(3), May 19, 1972, 86 Stat. 151, 152, 155; Pub. L. 95-239, §3(b)(2), Mar. 1, 1978, 92 Stat. 97; Pub. L. 103-296, title I, §108(i)(2), Aug. 15, 1994, 108 Stat. 1488; Pub. L. 107-275, §2(a), Nov. 2, 2002, 116 Stat. 1925.)

## AMENDMENTS

2002—Subsec. (a)(2)(D). Pub. L. 107-275 substituted "Secretary" for "Commissioner of Social Security".

1994—Subsec. (a)(2)(D). Pub. L. 103-296 substituted "Commissioner of Social Security" for "Secretary".

1978—Subsec. (e). Pub. L. 95-239 added cl. (3) relating to individuals entitled to benefits under par. (5) of section 921(c) of this title.

1972—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 92-303, §§1(c)(6), 5(2), designated existing provisions as par. (1) and added pars. (2) and (3), and in par. (1) substituted "1973" for "1972" wherever appearing.

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 92-303, §§5(1), (2), substituted "June 30, 1973" for "December 31, 1971" and "December 31, 1973" for "December 31, 1971".

Subsec. (e). Pub. L. 92-303, §§1(c)(1), 5(3), substituted "widow, child, parent, brother, or sister" for "widow" and "1974" for "1973".

## EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2002 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 107-275 effective 90 days after Nov. 2, 2002, see section 4 of Pub. L. 107-275, set out as a note under section 902 of this title.

## EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1994 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 103-296 effective Mar. 31, 1995, see section 110(a) of Pub. L. 103-296, set out as a note under section 401 of Title 42, The Public Health and Welfare.

## EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1978 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 95-239 effective Mar. 1, 1978, see section 20(a) of Pub. L. 95-239, set out as a note under section 901 of this title.

**§ 924a. Repealed. Pub. L. 107-275, §2(c)(2), Nov. 2, 2002, 116 Stat. 1926**

Section, Pub. L. 95-239, §11, Mar. 1, 1978, 92 Stat. 101, related to notification to miners of eligibility for medical services and supplies and the period for filing a claim.

## EFFECTIVE DATE OF REPEAL

Repeal effective 90 days after Nov. 2, 2002, see section 4 of Pub. L. 107-275, set out as an Effective Date of 2002 Amendment note under section 902 of this title.

**§ 925. Procedure for the determination of claims during transition period**

(a) Notwithstanding any other provision in this subchapter, for the purpose of assuring the uninterrupted receipt of benefits by claimants at such time as responsibility for administration of the benefits program is assumed by either a State workmen's compensation agency or the Secretary of Labor, any claim for benefits under this part filed during the period from July 1, 1973 to December 31, 1973, shall be considered and determined in accordance with the procedures of this section. With respect to any such claim—

(1) Such claim shall be determined and, where appropriate under this part or section 9501(d) of title 26, benefits shall be paid with respect to such claim by the Secretary of Labor.

(2) The Secretary of Labor shall promptly notify any operator who he believes, on the basis of information contained in the claim, or any other information available to him, may be liable to pay benefits to the claimant under part C of this subchapter for any month after December 31, 1973.

(3) In determining such claims, the Secretary of Labor shall, to the extent appropriate, follow the procedures described in subsections (b), (c), and (d) of section 919 of title 33.

(4) Any operator who has been notified of the pendency of a claim under paragraph (2) of this subsection shall be bound by the determination of the Secretary of Labor on such claim as if the claim had been filed pursuant to part C of this subchapter and section 932 of this title had been applicable to such operator. Nothing in this paragraph shall require any operator to pay any benefits for any month prior to January 1, 1974.

(b) The Secretary of Labor may issue such regulations as are necessary or appropriate to carry out the purpose of this section.

(Pub. L. 91-173, title IV, §415, as added Pub. L. 92-303, §7, May 19, 1972, 86 Stat. 156; amended Pub. L. 97-119, title I, §104(b)(2), Dec. 29, 1981, 95 Stat. 1639; Pub. L. 99-514, §2, Oct. 22, 1986, 100 Stat. 2095; Pub. L. 103-296, title I, §108(i)(2), Aug. 15, 1994, 108 Stat. 1488; Pub. L. 107-275, §2(b)(3), Nov. 2, 2002, 116 Stat. 1925.)

## AMENDMENTS

2002—Subsec. (a)(2) to (5). Pub. L. 107-275, §2(b)(3)(A), redesignated pars. (3) to (5) as (2) to (4), respectively, substituted "paragraph (2)" for "paragraph 4" in par. (4), and struck out former par. (2) which read as follows: "The manner and place of filing such claim shall be in accordance with regulations issued jointly by the Commissioner of Social Security and the Secretary of Labor, which regulations shall provide, among other things, that such claims may be filed in district offices of the Social Security Administration and thereafter transferred to the jurisdiction of the Department of Labor for further consideration."

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 107-275, §2(b)(3)(B), struck out "after consultation with the Commissioner of Social Security," after "Secretary of Labor".

1994—Subsecs. (a)(2), (b). Pub. L. 103-296 substituted "Commissioner of Social Security" for "Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare".

1986—Subsec. (a)(1). Pub. L. 99-514 substituted "Internal Revenue Code of 1986" for "Internal Revenue Code

of 1954", which for purposes of codification was translated as "title 26" thus requiring no change in text.

1981—Subsec. (a)(1). Pub. L. 97-119 substituted "section 9501(d) of title 26" for "section 934 of this title".

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2002 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 107-275 effective 90 days after Nov. 2, 2002, see section 4 of Pub. L. 107-275, set out as a note under section 902 of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1994 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 103-296 effective Mar. 31, 1995, see section 110(a) of Pub. L. 103-296, set out as a note under section 401 of Title 42, The Public Health and Welfare.

PART C—CLAIMS FOR BENEFITS AFTER  
DECEMBER 31, 1973

**§ 931. Benefits under State workmen's compensation laws**

**(a) Filing**

On and after January 1, 1974, any claim for benefits for death or total disability due to pneumoconiosis shall be filed pursuant to the applicable State workmen's compensation law, except that during any period when miners or their surviving widows, children, parents, brothers, or sisters, as the case may be, are not covered by a State workmen's compensation law which provides adequate coverage for pneumoconiosis, and in any case in which benefits based upon eligibility under paragraph (5) of section 921(c) of this title are involved,<sup>1</sup> they shall be entitled to claim benefits under this part.

**(b) Adequacy of compensation; listing of States providing adequate compensation; requisites for listing**

(1) For purposes of this section, a State workmen's compensation law shall not be deemed to provide adequate coverage for pneumoconiosis during any period unless it is included in the list of State laws found by the Secretary to provide such adequate coverage during such period. The Secretary shall, no later than October 1, 1972, publish in the Federal Register a list of State workmen's compensation laws which provide adequate coverage for pneumoconiosis and shall revise and republish in the Federal Register such list from time to time, as may be appropriate to reflect changes in such State laws due to legislation or judicial or administrative interpretation.

(2) The Secretary shall include a State workmen's compensation law on such list during any period only if he finds that during such period under such law—

(A) benefits must be paid for total disability or death of a miner due to pneumoconiosis, except that (i) such law shall not be required to provide such benefits where the miner's last employment in a coal mine terminated before the Secretary's approval of the State law pursuant to this section; and (ii) each operator of a coal mine shall secure the payment of benefits pursuant to section 933 of this title with respect to any miner whose last employment in a coal mine terminated before the Secretary's approval of the State law pursuant to this section;

(B) the amount of such cash benefits is substantially equivalent to or greater than the amount of benefits prescribed by section 922(a) of this title;

(C) the standards for determining death or total disability due to pneumoconiosis are substantially equivalent to section 902(f) of this title and to those standards established under this part, and by the regulations of the Secretary promulgated under this part;

(D) any claim for benefits on account of total disability of a miner due to pneumoconiosis is deemed to be timely filed if such claim is filed within three years after a medical determination of total disability due to pneumoconiosis;

(E) there are in effect provisions with respect to prior and successor operators which are substantially equivalent to the provisions contained in section 932(i) of this title; and

(F) there are applicable such other provisions, regulations or interpretations, which are consistent with the provisions contained in Public Law 803, 69th Congress (44 Stat. 1424, approved March 4, 1927), as amended [33 U.S.C. 901 et seq.], which are applicable under section 932(a) of this title, but are not inconsistent with any of the criteria set forth in subparagraphs (A) through (E) of this paragraph, as the Secretary, in accordance with regulations promulgated by him, determines to be necessary or appropriate to assure adequate compensation for total disability or death due to pneumoconiosis.

The action of the Secretary in including or failing to include any State workmen's compensation law on such list shall be subject to judicial review exclusively in the United States court of appeals for the circuit in which the State is located or the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia.

**(c) Publication in Federal Register; review of listings**

Final regulations required for implementation of any amendments to this part shall be promulgated and published in the Federal Register at the earliest practicable date after the date of enactment of such amendments, and in no event later than the end of the sixth month following the month in which such amendments are enacted.

(Pub. L. 91-173, title IV, §421, Dec. 30, 1969, 83 Stat. 795; Pub. L. 92-303, §§1(c)(1), 4(e), 5(3), (5), May 19, 1972, 86 Stat. 151, 154, 155; Pub. L. 95-239, §§3(b)(3), 6, Mar. 1, 1978, 92 Stat. 97, 98.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Public Law 803, 69th Congress, referred to in subsec. (b)(2)(F), is act Mar. 4, 1927, ch. 509, 44 Stat. 1424, as amended, popularly known as the Longshore and Harbor Workers' Compensation Act, which is classified generally to chapter 18 (§901 et seq.) of Title 33, Navigation and Navigable Waters. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see section 901 of Title 33 and Tables.

AMENDMENTS

1978—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 95-239, §3(b)(3), inserted reference to cases in which benefits based upon eligibility under par. (5) of section 921(c) of this title are involved.

Subsec. (b)(2)(A). Pub. L. 95-239, §6(a), added the exceptions set out in cls. (i) and (ii).

<sup>1</sup> So in original. The period probably should be a comma.