

tions 501 to 515 and 516 to 597b of this Appendix], a penalty shall not accrue for failure to comply with the terms of the contract during the period of the stay.

**(b) Reduction or waiver of fines or penalties**

If a servicemember fails to perform an obligation arising under a contract and a penalty is incurred arising from that nonperformance, a court may reduce or waive the fine or penalty if—

- (1) the servicemember was in military service at the time the fine or penalty was incurred; and
- (2) the ability of the servicemember to perform the obligation was materially affected by such military service.

(Oct. 17, 1940, ch. 888, title II, §203, as added Pub. L. 108-189, §1, Dec. 19, 2003, 117 Stat. 2843.)

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 523, act Oct. 17, 1940, ch. 888, art. II, §203, 54 Stat. 1181, related to stay or vacation of execution of judgments and attachments, prior to the general amendment of this Act by Pub. L. 108-189. See section 524 of this Appendix.

**§ 524. Stay or vacation of execution of judgments, attachments, and garnishments**

**(a) Court action upon material affect determination**

If a servicemember, in the opinion of the court, is materially affected by reason of military service in complying with a court judgment or order, the court may on its own motion and shall on application by the servicemember—

- (1) stay the execution of any judgment or order entered against the servicemember; and
- (2) vacate or stay an attachment or garnishment of property, money, or debts in the possession of the servicemember or a third party, whether before or after judgment.

**(b) Applicability**

This section applies to an action or proceeding commenced in a court against a servicemember before or during the period of the servicemember's military service or within 90 days after such service terminates.

(Oct. 17, 1940, ch. 888, title II, §204, as added Pub. L. 108-189, §1, Dec. 19, 2003, 117 Stat. 2843.)

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 524, act Oct. 17, 1940, ch. 888, art. II, §204, 54 Stat. 1181, related to duration and term of stays and codefendants not in service, prior to the general amendment of this Act by Pub. L. 108-189. See section 525 of this Appendix.

**§ 525. Duration and term of stays; codefendants not in service**

**(a) Period of stay**

A stay of an action, proceeding, attachment, or execution made pursuant to the provisions of this Act [sections 501 to 515 and 516 to 597b of this Appendix] by a court may be ordered for the period of military service and 90 days thereafter, or for any part of that period. The court may set the terms and amounts for such installment payments as is considered reasonable by the court.

**(b) Codefendants**

If the servicemember is a codefendant with others who are not in military service and who are not entitled to the relief and protections provided under this Act [sections 501 to 515 and 516 to 597b of this Appendix], the plaintiff may proceed against those other defendants with the approval of the court.

**(c) Inapplicability of section**

This section does not apply to sections 202 and 701 [sections 522 and 591 of this Appendix].

(Oct. 17, 1940, ch. 888, title II, §205, as added Pub. L. 108-189, §1, Dec. 19, 2003, 117 Stat. 2844.)

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 525, acts Oct. 17, 1940, ch. 888, art. II, §205, 54 Stat. 1181; Oct. 6, 1942, ch. 581, §5, 56 Stat. 770; Pub. L. 102-12, §9(6), Mar. 18, 1991, 105 Stat. 39, related to statutes of limitations as affected by period of service, prior to the general amendment of this Act by Pub. L. 108-189. See section 526 of this Appendix.

**§ 526. Statute of limitations**

**(a) Tolling of statutes of limitation during military service**

The period of a servicemember's military service may not be included in computing any period limited by law, regulation, or order for the bringing of any action or proceeding in a court, or in any board, bureau, commission, department, or other agency of a State (or political subdivision of a State) or the United States by or against the servicemember or the servicemember's heirs, executors, administrators, or assigns.

**(b) Redemption of real property**

A period of military service may not be included in computing any period provided by law for the redemption of real property sold or forfeited to enforce an obligation, tax, or assessment.

**(c) Inapplicability to internal revenue laws**

This section does not apply to any period of limitation prescribed by or under the internal revenue laws of the United States.

(Oct. 17, 1940, ch. 888, title II, §206, as added Pub. L. 108-189, §1, Dec. 19, 2003, 117 Stat. 2844.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The internal revenue laws of the United States, referred to in subsec. (c), are classified generally to Title 26, Internal Revenue Code.

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 526, act Oct. 17, 1940, ch. 888, art. II, §206, as added Oct. 6, 1942, ch. 581, §6, 56 Stat. 771; amended Pub. L. 102-12, §9(7), Mar. 18, 1991, 105 Stat. 39, related to maximum rate of interest, prior to the general amendment of this Act by Pub. L. 108-189. See section 527 of this Appendix.

**§ 527. Maximum rate of interest on debts incurred before military service**

**(a) Interest rate limitation**

**(1) Limitation to 6 percent**

An obligation or liability bearing interest at a rate in excess of 6 percent per year that is incurred by a servicemember, or the