

was a high housing cost area with respect to such member, and a member with dependents who was assigned to an unaccompanied tour of duty outside the United States could be paid a variable housing allowance while serving such tour of duty for any period during which the member's dependents resided in an area of the United States which would qualify the member to receive a variable housing allowance if assigned to duty in that area.

#### PAY CONTINUATION

Amendment of this section by Pub. L. 92-129 not to reduce the pay to which any member of the uniformed services was entitled on June 30, 1971, see section 210 of Pub. L. 92-129, set out as a note under section 203 of this title.

#### 1962 INCREASE IN QUARTERS ALLOWANCE

Act Oct. 12, 1949, ch. 681, title III, § 302(f), 63 Stat. 812, as amended by Pub. L. 87-531, § 1, July 10, 1962, 76 Stat. 152, which had provided for increases in quarters allowances without amending subsec. (a) of this section through the device of effecting an amendment to section 302(f) of the Career Compensation Act of 1949, was repealed by section 75(5) of Pub. L. 89-718 except with respect to rights and duties that matured, penalties that were incurred, and proceedings that were begun before November 2, 1966. The substance of these quarters allowance increases were incorporated into the text of this section through the amendment of subsec. (a) of this section by Pub. L. 89-718.

#### ENLISTED MEMBERS WITHOUT DEPENDENTS

Act Oct. 12, 1949, ch. 681, title III, 302(g), 63 Stat. 812, which provided that enlisted members without dependents shall be entitled to a basic allowance for quarters at the rate of \$51.30 per month, was repealed by Pub. L. 87-531, § 2, July 10, 1962, 76 Stat. 152. Laws effective after Jan. 9, 1962, that are inconsistent with Pub. L. 87-649, to be considered as superseding Pub. L. 87-649 to the extent of the inconsistency, see section 12(a) of Pub. L. 87-649, set out as a note preceding section 101 of this title.

#### AUTHORITY OF SECRETARIES WITH RESPECT TO PAYMENT OF QUARTERS ALLOWANCES

Pub. L. 87-531, § 5, July 10, 1962, 76 Stat. 153, provided that: "The Secretaries of the departments concerned shall have the same authority with respect to payments of quarters allowances to enlisted members of the uniformed services to pay grades E-4 (over 4 years' service) through E-9 that they have with respect to enlisted members of the uniformed services in pay grades E-1, E-2, E-3, and E-4 (4 years' or less service) under sections 10 and 11 of the Dependents Assistance Act of 1950 (50 App. U.S.C. 2210, 2211)."

#### EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 10204

Ex. Ord. No. 10204, Jan. 16, 1951, 16 F.R. 417, as amended by Ex. Ord. No. 11120, Oct. 2, 1963, 28 F.R. 10631; Ex. Ord. No. 11146, Mar. 13, 1964, 29 F.R. 3417, which related to regulations governing basic allowances for quarters, was revoked by Ex. Ord. No. 11157, June 22, 1964, 29 F.R. 7973, formerly set out as a note under section 301 of this title.

#### [§ 403a. Repealed. Pub. L. 105-85, div. A, title VI, § 603(c)(1), Nov. 18, 1997, 111 Stat. 1781]

Section, added Pub. L. 98-525, title VI, § 602(d)(1), Oct. 19, 1984, 98 Stat. 2534; amended Pub. L. 99-145, title VI, § 602(a)-(d), 604(b), Nov. 8, 1985, 99 Stat. 636-638; Pub. L. 100-26, § 8(e)(8), Apr. 21, 1987, 101 Stat. 286; Pub. L. 101-189, div. A, title VI, § 602(a), Nov. 29, 1989, 103 Stat. 1445; Pub. L. 101-510, div. A, title VI, § 602, Nov. 5, 1990, 104 Stat. 1575; Pub. L. 102-25, title VII, § 702(b)(1), (2), (c), Apr. 6, 1991, 105 Stat. 117; Pub. L. 102-190, div. A, title

VI, §§ 603, 604(b), 633, Dec. 5, 1991, 105 Stat. 1373, 1374, 1381; Pub. L. 103-160, div. A, title VI, § 604, Nov. 30, 1993, 107 Stat. 1679; Pub. L. 104-106, div. A, title VI, § 605(a)(1), (b), Feb. 10, 1996, 110 Stat. 358; Pub. L. 104-201, div. A, title VI, §§ 604(d), 606(a)-(d), Sept. 23, 1996, 110 Stat. 2541, 2542, related to variable housing allowances.

#### EFFECTIVE DATE OF REPEAL

Repeal effective Jan. 1, 1998, see section 603(e) of Pub. L. 105-85, set out as an Effective Date of 1997 Amendment note under section 5561 of Title 5, Government Organization and Employees.

#### § 403b. Cost-of-living allowance in the continental United States

(a) PAYMENT AUTHORIZED.—The Secretary concerned may pay a cost-of-living allowance to the eligible members of a uniformed service under the jurisdiction of the Secretary.

(b) ELIGIBLE MEMBERS.—The following members are eligible to receive a cost-of-living allowance under this section:

(1) A member assigned to a high cost area in the continental United States.

(2) A member assigned to an unaccompanied tour of duty outside the continental United States if the primary dependent of the member resides in a high cost area in the continental United States.

(3) A member assigned to duty in the continental United States if the Secretary of the uniformed service concerned determines that—

(A) the primary dependent of the member must reside in a high cost area in the continental United States by reason of the member's duty location or other circumstances; and

(B) it would be inequitable for the member's eligibility for the allowance to be determined on the basis of the duty location of the member.

(c) HIGH COST AREA DEFINED.—An area is a high cost area for a fiscal year for purposes of this section if the uniformed services cost of living for that area for the base period exceeds the average cost of living in the continental United States for such base period by at least the threshold percentage. The Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the other administering Secretaries, shall establish the threshold percentage, except that the threshold percentage may not be less than 8 percent. The administering Secretaries shall prescribe a higher threshold percentage to be applied for a fiscal year when it is necessary to do so in order to ensure that the total amount of the payments of the cost-of-living allowance made to members of the uniformed services under this section for such fiscal year does not exceed the total amount available to all uniformed services for that fiscal year for paying such allowance.

(d) AMOUNT OF ALLOWANCE.—The cost-of-living allowance that may be paid to a member for a high cost area for a fiscal year shall be the amount that is equal to the product of—

(1) the amount of the average spendable income determined applicable for the regular military compensation level of such member under subsection (g); and