

1981—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 97-72 substituted “equipped to provide the care and treatment” for “particularly equipped to provide the most effective care and treatment” in provisions following par. (2).

1979—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 96-151, § 205(a)(1), in cl. (1) substituted reference to spouse for reference to wife, in cl. (2) substituted reference to surviving spouse for reference to widow, and added cl. (3).

Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 96-151, § 205(a)(2), added subsec. (c).

1976—Subsec. (a)(2). Pub. L. 94-581, § 104, designated existing provisions as cl. (A) and added cl. (B).

Subsec. (b)(1). Pub. L. 94-581, § 210(a)(4)(A), substituted “the Secretary enters” for “he enters”.

Subsec. (b)(2). Pub. L. 94-581, § 210(a)(4)(B), substituted “the Administrator” for “he” in two places.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1982 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 97-251, § 5(b), Sept. 8, 1982, 96 Stat. 716, provided that: “The amendment made by subsection (a) [amending this section] shall take effect on October 1, 1982.”

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1979 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 96-151, title II, § 205(b), Dec. 20, 1979, 93 Stat. 1095, provided that: “The amendments made by subsection (a) [amending this section] shall take effect with respect to fiscal year 1980 only to such extent and for such amounts as may be specifically provided for such purpose in appropriation Acts.”

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1976 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 94-581 effective Oct. 21, 1976, see section 211 of Pub. L. 94-581, set out as a note under section 111 of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE

Section effective Sept. 1, 1973, see section 501 of Pub. L. 93-82, set out as an Effective Date of 1973 Amendment note under section 1701 of this title.

§ 1782. Counseling, training, and mental health services for immediate family members and caregivers

(a) COUNSELING FOR FAMILY MEMBERS OF VETERANS RECEIVING SERVICE-CONNECTED TREATMENT.—In the case of a veteran who is receiving treatment for a service-connected disability pursuant to paragraph (1) or (2) of section 1710(a) of this title, the Secretary shall provide to individuals described in subsection (c) such consultation, professional counseling, marriage and family counseling, training, and mental health services as are necessary in connection with that treatment.

(b) COUNSELING FOR FAMILY MEMBERS OF VETERANS RECEIVING NON-SERVICE-CONNECTED TREATMENT.—In the case of a veteran who is eligible to receive treatment for a non-service-connected disability under the conditions described in paragraph (1), (2), or (3) of section 1710(a) of this title, the Secretary may, in the discretion of the Secretary, provide to individuals described in subsection (c) such consultation, professional counseling, marriage and family counseling, training, and mental health services as are necessary in connection with that treatment.

(c) ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUALS.—Individuals who may be provided services under this subsection are—

- (1) the members of the immediate family or the legal guardian of a veteran;
- (2) a family caregiver of an eligible veteran or a caregiver of a covered veteran (as those

terms are defined in section 1720G of this title); or

(3) the individual in whose household such veteran certifies an intention to live.

(d) TRAVEL AND TRANSPORTATION AUTHORIZED.—Services provided under subsections (a) and (b) may include, under the terms and conditions set forth in section 111 of this title, travel and incidental expenses of individuals described in subsection (c) in the case of any of the following:

(1) A veteran who is receiving care for a service-connected disability.

(2) A dependent or survivor receiving care under the last sentence of section 1783(b) of this title.

(Added Pub. L. 107-135, title II, § 208(b), Jan. 23, 2002, 115 Stat. 2462; amended Pub. L. 110-387, title III, § 301(a)(2), Oct. 10, 2008, 122 Stat. 4120; Pub. L. 111-163, title I, § 103(a), (b), May 5, 2010, 124 Stat. 1139, 1140.)

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 1782 was renumbered section 3682 of this title.

AMENDMENTS

2010—Pub. L. 111-163, § 103(b), inserted “and caregivers” after “members” in section catchline.

Subsec. (c)(2), (3). Pub. L. 111-163, § 103(a), added par. (2) and redesignated former par. (2) as (3).

2008—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 110-387, § 301(a)(2)(A), inserted “marriage and family counseling,” after “professional counseling.”

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 110-387, § 301(a)(2)(B), inserted “marriage and family counseling,” after “professional counseling,” and substituted period at end for “if—

“(1) those services were initiated during the veteran’s hospitalization; and

“(2) the continued provision of those services on an outpatient basis is essential to permit the discharge of the veteran from the hospital.”

§ 1783. Bereavement counseling

(a) DEATHS OF VETERANS.—In the case of an individual who was a recipient of services under section 1782 of this title at the time of the death of the veteran, the Secretary may provide bereavement counseling to that individual in the case of a death—

(1) that was unexpected; or

(2) that occurred while the veteran was participating in a hospice program (or a similar program) conducted by the Secretary.

(b) DEATHS IN ACTIVE SERVICE.—(1) The Secretary may provide bereavement counseling to an individual who is a member of the immediate family of a member of the Armed Forces who dies in the active military, naval, or air service in the line of duty and under circumstances not due to the person’s own misconduct.

(2) For purposes of this subsection, the members of the immediate family of a member of the Armed Forces described in paragraph (1) include the parents of such member.

(c) PROVISION OF COUNSELING THROUGH VET CENTERS.—Bereavement counseling may be provided under this section through the facilities and personnel of centers for the provision of readjustment counseling and related mental health services under section 1712A of this title.