

prescribed by him, may grant compensatory absence from duty to military personnel of the Coast Guard serving in lightships and at lighthouses and other isolated aids to navigation of the Coast Guard when conditions of duty result in confinement because of isolations or in long periods of continuous duty.”

1976—Pub. L. 94-546 substituted “Secretary” for “head of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating”.

§ 512. Monetary allowance for transportation of household effects

The transportation and reimbursement authorized by subsection (b) of section 476 of title 37 shall be available hereafter to pay a monetary allowance in place of such transportation to a member who, under regulations prescribed by the Secretary, participates in a program designated by the Secretary in which his baggage and household effects are moved by a privately owned or rental vehicle. This allowance shall not be limited to reimbursement for actual expenses and may be paid in advance of the transportation of the baggage and household effects. The allowance shall, however, be in an amount that will result in savings to the Government when the total cost of the movement of baggage and household effects is compared with the cost that otherwise would have been incurred under subsection (b) of section 476 of title 37.

(Added Pub. L. 96-376, §7(a), Oct. 3, 1980, 94 Stat. 1510; amended Pub. L. 97-295, §2(16), Oct. 12, 1982, 96 Stat. 1302; Pub. L. 112-81, div. A, title VI, §631(f)(4)(B), Dec. 31, 2011, 125 Stat. 1465; Pub. L. 112-239, div. A, title X, §1076(a)(9), Jan. 2, 2013, 126 Stat. 1948.)

AMENDMENTS

2013—Pub. L. 112-239, §1076(a)(9), made technical amendment to directory language of Pub. L. 112-81, §631(f)(4)(B). See 2011 Amendment note below.

2011—Pub. L. 112-81, §631(f)(4)(B), as amended by Pub. L. 112-239, §1076(a)(9), substituted “476” for “406” in two places.

1982—Pub. L. 97-295 struck out “, United States Code,” after “title 37” first time appearing, and “, United States Code” after “title 37” second time appearing.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2013 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 112-239, div. A, title X, §1076(a), Jan. 2, 2013, 126 Stat. 1947, provided that the amendment made by section 1076(a)(9) is effective Dec. 31, 2011, and as if included in Pub. L. 112-81 as enacted.

§ 513. Retroactive payment of pay and allowances delayed by administrative error or oversight

Under regulations prescribed by the Secretary, the Coast Guard may authorize retroactive payment of pay and allowances, including selective reenlistment bonuses, to enlisted members if entitlement to the pay and allowances was delayed in vesting solely because of an administrative error or oversight.

(Added Pub. L. 100-448, §13(a), Sept. 28, 1988, 102 Stat. 1844.)

[§ 514. Renumbered § 541]

[§ 515. Renumbered § 552]

§ 516. Presentation of United States flag upon retirement

(a) PRESENTATION OF FLAG.—Upon the release of a member of the Coast Guard from active duty for retirement, the Secretary shall present a United States flag to the member.

(b) MULTIPLE PRESENTATIONS NOT AUTHORIZED.—A member is not eligible for a presentation of a flag under subsection (a) if the member has previously been presented a flag under this section or any other provision of law providing for the presentation of a United States flag incident to release from active service for retirement.

(c) NO COST TO RECIPIENT.—The presentation of a flag under this section shall be at no cost to the recipient.

(Added Pub. L. 105-261, div. A, title VI, §644(d)(1), Oct. 17, 1998, 112 Stat. 2049; amended Pub. L. 106-65, div. A, title VI, §652(e), Oct. 5, 1999, 113 Stat. 666; Pub. L. 107-296, title XVII, §1704(a), Nov. 25, 2002, 116 Stat. 2314; Pub. L. 107-314, div. A, title X, §1062(b)(2), Dec. 2, 2002, 116 Stat. 2650; Pub. L. 112-213, title II, §217(6), Dec. 20, 2012, 126 Stat. 1557.)

AMENDMENTS

2012—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 112-213 struck out “of Homeland Security” after “Secretary”.

2002—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 107-296 substituted “of Homeland Security” for “of Transportation”.

Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 107-314 substituted “this section” for “his section”.

1999—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 106-65 substituted “under this section or any other provision of law providing for the presentation of a United States flag incident to release from active service for retirement.” for “under this section or section 3681, 6141, and 8681 of title 10.”

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2002 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 107-296 effective on the date of transfer of the Coast Guard to the Department of Homeland Security, see section 1704(g) of Pub. L. 107-296, set out as a note under section 101 of Title 10, Armed Forces.

EFFECTIVE DATE

Section applicable with respect to releases from active duty described in this section and sections 3681, 6141, and 8641 of Title 10, Armed Forces, on or after Oct. 1, 1998, see section 644(e) of Pub. L. 105-261, set out as a note under section 3681 of Title 10.

§ 517. Travel card management

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may require that travel or transportation allowances due a civilian employee or military member of the Coast Guard be disbursed directly to the issuer of a Federal contractor-issued travel charge card, but only in an amount not to exceed the authorized travel expenses charged by that Coast Guard member to that travel charge card issued to that employee or member.

(b) WITHHOLDING OF NONDISPUTED OBLIGATIONS.—The Secretary may also establish requirements similar to those established by the Secretary of Defense pursuant to section 2784a of title 10 for deduction or withholding of pay or

retired pay from a Coast Guard employee, member, or retired member who is delinquent in payment under the terms of the contract under which the card was issued and does not dispute the amount of the delinquency.

(Added Pub. L. 108–293, title II, §210(a), Aug. 9, 2004, 118 Stat. 1036.)

§ 518. Reimbursement for medical-related travel expenses for certain persons residing on islands in the continental United States

In any case in which a covered beneficiary (as defined in section 1072(5) of title 10) resides on an island that is located in the 48 contiguous States and the District of Columbia and that lacks public access roads to the mainland and is referred by a primary care physician to a specialty care provider (as defined in section 1074i(b) of title 10) on the mainland who provides services less than 100 miles from the location where the beneficiary resides, the Secretary shall reimburse the reasonable travel expenses of the covered beneficiary and, when accompanied by an adult is necessary, for a parent or guardian of the covered beneficiary or another member of the covered beneficiary's family who is at least 21 years of age.

(Added Pub. L. 111–281, title II, §203(a), Oct. 15, 2010, 124 Stat. 2909.)

CHAPTER 14—COAST GUARD FAMILY SUPPORT AND CHILD CARE

SUBCHAPTER I—GENERAL PROVISIONS

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531.	Work-life policies and programs.
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AMENDMENTS

2014—Pub. L. 113–281, title II, §214(b)(2)(C), Dec. 18, 2014, 128 Stat. 3034, added items 541, 544, and 552.

SUBCHAPTER I—GENERAL PROVISIONS

§ 531. Work-life policies and programs

The Commandant is authorized—

(1) to establish an office for the purpose of developing, promulgating, and coordinating policies, programs, and activities related to the families of Coast Guard members;

(2) to implement and oversee policies, programs, and activities described in paragraph (1) as the Commandant considers necessary; and

(3) to perform such other duties as the Commandant considers necessary.

(Added Pub. L. 113–281, title II, §214(a), Dec. 18, 2014, 128 Stat. 3029.)

§ 532. Surveys of Coast Guard families

(a) **AUTHORITY.**—The Commandant, in order to determine the effectiveness of Federal policies, programs, and activities related to the families of Coast Guard members, may survey—

- (1) any Coast Guard member;
- (2) any retired Coast Guard member;
- (3) the immediate family of any Coast Guard member or retired Coast Guard member; and
- (4) any survivor of a deceased Coast Guard member.

(b) **VOLUNTARY PARTICIPATION.**—Participation in any survey conducted under subsection (a) shall be voluntary.

(c) **FEDERAL RECORDKEEPING.**—Each person surveyed under subsection (a) shall be considered an employee of the United States for purposes of section 3502(3)(A)(i) of title 44.

(Added Pub. L. 113–281, title II, §214(a), Dec. 18, 2014, 128 Stat. 3029.)

SUBCHAPTER II—COAST GUARD FAMILY SUPPORT

§ 541. Reimbursement for adoption expenses

(a) **AUTHORIZATION TO REIMBURSE.**—The Secretary shall carry out a program under which a member of the Coast Guard may be reimbursed, as provided in this section, for qualifying adoption expenses incurred by the member in the adoption of a child under 18 years of age.

(b) **ADOPTIONS COVERED.**—An adoption for which expenses may be reimbursed under this section includes an adoption by a single person, an infant adoption, an intercountry adoption, and an adoption of a child with special needs (as defined in section 473(c) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 673(c))).

(c) **BENEFITS PAID AFTER ADOPTION IS FINAL.**—Benefits paid under this section in the case of an adoption may be paid only after the adoption is final.

(d) **TREATMENT OF OTHER BENEFITS.**—A benefit may not be paid under this section for any expense paid to or for a member of the Coast Guard under any other adoption benefits program administered by the Federal Government or under any such program administered by a State or local government.

(e) **LIMITATIONS.**—(1) Not more than \$2,000 may be paid under this section to a member of the Coast Guard, or to two such members who are spouses of each other, for expenses incurred in the adoption of a child.

(2) Not more than \$5,000 may be paid under this section to a member of the Coast Guard, or to two such members who are spouses of each other, for adoptions by such member (or members) in any calendar year.

(f) **REGULATIONS.**—The Secretary shall prescribe regulations to carry out this section.

(g) **DEFINITIONS.**—In this section:

(1) The term “qualifying adoption expenses” means reasonable and necessary expenses that are directly related to the legal adoption of a child under 18 years of age, but only if such adoption is arranged by a qualified adoption