

within the Department, is warranted by the medical complexity or controversy involved in an appeal case, the Board may secure an advisory medical opinion from one or more independent medical experts who are not employees of the Department.

(b) The Secretary shall make necessary arrangements with recognized medical schools, universities, or clinics to furnish such advisory medical opinions at the request of the Chairman of the Board. Any such arrangement shall provide that the actual selection of the expert or experts to give the advisory opinion in an individual case shall be made by an appropriate official of such institution.

(c) The Board shall furnish a claimant with notice that an advisory medical opinion has been requested under this section with respect to the claimant's case and shall furnish the claimant with a copy of such opinion when it is received by the Board.

(Added Pub. L. 87-671, § 1, Sept. 19, 1962, 76 Stat. 557, § 4009; amended Pub. L. 100-687, div. A, title I, § 103(b), Nov. 18, 1988, 102 Stat. 4107; renumbered § 7109, Pub. L. 102-40, title IV, § 402(b)(1), May 7, 1991, 105 Stat. 238; Pub. L. 102-83, § 4(a)(3), (4), (b)(1), (2)(E), Aug. 6, 1991, 105 Stat. 404, 405.)

#### AMENDMENTS

1991—Pub. L. 102-40 renumbered section 4009 of this title as this section.

Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 102-83, § 4(a)(3), (4), substituted "Department" for "Veterans' Administration" in two places.

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 102-83, § 4(b)(1), (2)(E), substituted "Secretary" for "Administrator".

1988—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 100-687, § 103(b)(1), substituted "Board may" for "Board is authorized to".

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 100-687, § 103(b)(2), substituted "Any such arrangement shall" for "Such arrangement will", and "an individual case shall" for "any individual case will".

Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 100-687, § 103(b)(3), added subsec. (c).

#### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1988 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 100-687 effective Sept. 1, 1989, see section 401(a) of Pub. L. 100-687, set out as an Effective Date note under section 7251 of this title.

#### EFFECTIVE DATE

Section effective Jan. 1, 1963, see section 4 of Pub. L. 87-671, set out as an Effective Date of 1962 Amendment note under section 5701 of this title.

#### **[§ 7110. Repealed. Pub. L. 103-271, § 7(b)(2), July 1, 1994, 108 Stat. 743]**

Section, added Pub. L. 100-687, div. A, title II, § 207(a), Nov. 18, 1988, 102 Stat. 4111, § 4010; renumbered § 7110, Pub. L. 102-40, title IV, § 402(b)(1), May 7, 1991, 105 Stat. 238; amended Pub. L. 102-83, § 4(a)(3), (4), Aug. 6, 1991, 105 Stat. 404, authorized hearing before traveling sections of the Board.

#### **§ 7111. Revision of decisions on grounds of clear and unmistakable error**

(a) A decision by the Board is subject to revision on the grounds of clear and unmistakable error. If evidence establishes the error, the prior decision shall be reversed or revised.

(b) For the purposes of authorizing benefits, a rating or other adjudicative decision of the Board that constitutes a reversal or revision of

a prior decision of the Board on the grounds of clear and unmistakable error has the same effect as if the decision had been made on the date of the prior decision.

(c) Review to determine whether clear and unmistakable error exists in a case may be instituted by the Board on the Board's own motion or upon request of the claimant.

(d) A request for revision of a decision of the Board based on clear and unmistakable error may be made at any time after that decision is made.

(e) Such a request shall be submitted directly to the Board and shall be decided by the Board on the merits, without referral to any adjudicative or hearing official acting on behalf of the Secretary.

(f) A claim filed with the Secretary that requests reversal or revision of a previous Board decision due to clear and unmistakable error shall be considered to be a request to the Board under this section, and the Secretary shall promptly transmit any such request to the Board for its consideration under this section.

(Added Pub. L. 105-111, § 1(b)(1), Nov. 21, 1997, 111 Stat. 2271.)

#### EFFECTIVE DATE

Section applicable to any determination made before, on, or after Nov. 21, 1997, see section 1(c)(1) of Pub. L. 105-111, set out as a note under section 5109A of this title.

#### **§ 7112. Expedited treatment of remanded claims**

The Secretary shall take such actions as may be necessary to provide for the expeditious treatment by the Board of any claim that is remanded to the Secretary by the Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims.

(Added Pub. L. 108-183, title VII, § 707(b)(1), Dec. 16, 2003, 117 Stat. 2673.)

### **CHAPTER 72—UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR VETERANS CLAIMS**

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