

erans with physical disabilities by coordinating the activities of the United States Olympic Committee with the Department of Veterans Affairs.

“(5) The Paralympic Program has a significant positive effect on the quality of life of disabled veterans and disabled members of the Armed Forces who participate in the program, including helping to improve the mobility, vitality, and physical, psychological, and social well-being of such participants and reducing the incidence of secondary medical conditions in those participants.

“(6) Because of Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom, the number of disabled veterans and disabled members of the Armed Forces has increased substantially and it is therefore desirable to supplement the rehabilitation and recreation programs of the Department of Veterans Affairs through sports for disabled veterans and members of the Armed Forces.

“(b) PURPOSE.—The purposes of this title [enacting this section, section 521A of this title, and provisions set out as notes under section 521A of this title] are as follows:

“(1) To promote the lifelong health of disabled veterans and disabled members of the Armed Forces through regular participation in physical activity and sports.

“(2) To enhance the recreation activities provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs by promoting disabled sports from the local level through elite levels and by creating partnerships among organizations specializing in supporting, training, and promoting programs for disabled veterans.

“(3) To provide training and support to national and local organizations to provide Paralympic sports training to disabled veterans and disabled members of the Armed Forces in their own communities.

“(4) To provide support to the United States Paralympics, Inc., to increase the participation of disabled veterans and disabled members of the Armed Forces in sports.”

**CHAPTER 5—AUTHORITY AND DUTIES OF THE SECRETARY**

**SUBCHAPTER I—GENERAL AUTHORITIES**

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- 522. Studies of rehabilitation of disabled persons.
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- SUBCHAPTER III—ADVISORY COMMITTEES
- 541. Advisory Committee on Former Prisoners of War.
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- 543. Advisory Committee on Prosthetics and Special-Disabilities Programs.
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- 546. Advisory Committee on Disability Compensation.

**AMENDMENTS**

2015—Pub. L. 114-58, title VI, §601(2), Sept. 30, 2015, 129 Stat. 538, which directed amendment of this analysis by striking item “521A” and adding item 521A, was executed by striking item 512A “Adaptive sports programs for disabled veterans and members of the Armed Forces” and adding item 521A, to reflect the probable intent of Congress.

2013—Pub. L. 113-59, §5(h)(2), Dec. 20, 2013, 127 Stat. 662, which directed amendment of this analysis by striking item 521A and adding item “512A”, was executed by striking item 521A “Assistance for United States Olympic Committee” and adding item 512A in the position for item 521A, to reflect the probable intent of Congress.

Pub. L. 113-37, §2(b)(3), Sept. 30, 2013, 127 Stat. 524, added item 521A and struck out former item 521A “Assistance for United States Paralympics, Inc.”

2012—Pub. L. 112-154, title VII, §§707(b), 709(b)(2), Aug. 6, 2012, 126 Stat. 1207, 1208, added item 517 and substituted “Authority to advertise in national media; VetStar Award Program” for “Authority to advertise in national media” in item 532.

2008—Pub. L. 110-389, title II, §214(b), title VII, §702(b), title VIII, §809(b), Oct. 10, 2008, 122 Stat. 4154, 4183, 4190, added items 521A, 532, and 546.

1998—Pub. L. 105-368, title IX, §906(b), title X, §1001(a)(2), Nov. 11, 1998, 112 Stat. 3362, 3363, added items 530 and 531.

1997—Pub. L. 105-114, title I, §101(a)(2), Nov. 21, 1997, 111 Stat. 2279, added item 516.

1996—Pub. L. 104-262, title III, §333(a)(2), Oct. 9, 1996, 110 Stat. 3200, added item 545.

1994—Pub. L. 103-446, title V, §510(b), Nov. 2, 1994, 108 Stat. 4670, added item 544.

1992—Pub. L. 102-405, title I, §105(b)(2), Oct. 9, 1992, 106 Stat. 1976, added item 543.

**SUBCHAPTER I—GENERAL AUTHORITIES**

**§ 501. Rules and regulations**

(a) The Secretary has authority to prescribe all rules and regulations which are necessary or appropriate to carry out the laws administered by the Department and are consistent with those laws, including—

(1) regulations with respect to the nature and extent of proof and evidence and the method of taking and furnishing them in order to establish the right to benefits under such laws;

(2) the forms of application by claimants under such laws;

(3) the methods of making investigations and medical examinations; and

(4) the manner and form of adjudications and awards.

(b) Any rule, regulation, guideline, or other published interpretation or order (and any amendment thereto) issued pursuant to the authority granted by this section or any other provision of this title shall contain citations to the