

Administration of this subchapter was transferred to the Secretary of Labor by section 1 of 1950 Reorg. Plan No. 19, 64 Stat. 1271 (see section 8145).

Standard changes are made to conform with the definitions applicable and the style of this title as outlined in the preface to the report.

§ 8127. Representation; attorneys' fees

(a) A claimant may authorize an individual to represent him in any proceeding under this subchapter before the Secretary of Labor.

(b) A claim for legal or other services furnished in respect to a case, claim, or award for compensation under this subchapter is valid only if approved by the Secretary.

(Pub. L. 89-554, Sept. 6, 1966, 80 Stat. 545.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Table with 3 columns: Derivation, U.S. Code, Revised Statutes and Statutes at Large. Row 1: ..... 5 U.S.C. 773(b) (less last sentence). Oct. 14, 1949, ch. 691, §208 "Sec. 23(b) (less last sentence)", 63 Stat. 865.

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§ 8128. Review of award

(a) The Secretary of Labor may review an award for or against payment of compensation at any time on his own motion or on application. The Secretary, in accordance with the facts found on review, may—

- (1) end, decrease, or increase the compensation previously awarded; or
(2) award compensation previously refused or discontinued.

(b) The action of the Secretary or his designee in allowing or denying a payment under this subchapter is—

- (1) final and conclusive for all purposes and with respect to all questions of law and fact; and
(2) not subject to review by another official of the United States or by a court by mandamus or otherwise.

Credit shall be allowed in the accounts of a certifying or disbursing official for payments in accordance with that action.

(Pub. L. 89-554, Sept. 6, 1966, 80 Stat. 545.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Table with 3 columns: Derivation, U.S. Code, Revised Statutes and Statutes at Large. Row (a): ..... 5 U.S.C. 787. Sept. 7, 1916, ch. 458, §37, 39 Stat. 749. June 5, 1924, ch. 261, §1, 43 Stat. 389. Row (b): ..... 5 U.S.C. 793 (penultimate sentence of 5th par.). July 28, 1945, ch. 328, §4 (penultimate sentence), 59 Stat. 504.

In subsection (a), the words "If the original claim for compensation has been made within the time specified in section 770 of this title" are omitted as surplusage. The words "an award for or against payment of compensation" are coextensive with and, for clarity and consistency with section 8124, substituted for "the

award". The second sentence of former section 787 is omitted as included in the penultimate sentence of former section 793, which is carried into subsection (b). The last sentence of former section 787 is omitted as executed.

In subsection (b), the word "official" is substituted for "officer" because of the definition of "officer" in section 2104 which excludes a member of a uniformed service.

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§ 8129. Recovery of overpayments

(a) When an overpayment has been made to an individual under this subchapter because of an error of fact or law, adjustment shall be made under regulations prescribed by the Secretary of Labor by decreasing later payments to which the individual is entitled. If the individual dies before the adjustment is completed, adjustment shall be made by decreasing later benefits payable under this subchapter with respect to the individual's death.

(b) Adjustment or recovery by the United States may not be made when incorrect payment has been made to an individual who is without fault and when adjustment or recovery would defeat the purpose of this subchapter or would be against equity and good conscience.

(c) A certifying or disbursing official is not liable for an amount certified or paid by him when—

- (1) adjustment or recovery of the amount is waived under subsection (b) of this section; or
(2) adjustment under subsection (a) of this section is not completed before the death of all individuals against whose benefits deductions are authorized.

(Pub. L. 89-554, Sept. 6, 1966, 80 Stat. 546.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Table with 3 columns: Derivation, U.S. Code, Revised Statutes and Statutes at Large. Row 1: ..... 5 U.S.C. 788. Sept. 7, 1916, ch. 458, §38, 39 Stat. 749. Oct. 14, 1949, ch. 691, §206, 63 Stat. 864.

In subsection (a), the words "Subject to the provisions of sections 786 and 787 of this title" and "if any" are omitted as surplusage.

In subsection (c), the word "official" is substituted for "officer" as the definition of "officer" in section 2104 excludes a member of a uniformed service.

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§ 8130. Assignment of claim

An assignment of a claim for compensation under this subchapter is void. Compensation and claims for compensation are exempt from claims of creditors.

(Pub. L. 89-554, Sept. 6, 1966, 80 Stat. 546.)