

§ 709a. Expenses incurred in connection with leave canceled due to contingency operations: reimbursement

(a) AUTHORIZATION TO REIMBURSE.—The Secretary concerned may reimburse a member of the armed forces under the jurisdiction of the Secretary for travel and related expenses (to the extent not otherwise reimbursable under law) incurred by the member as a result of the cancellation of previously approved leave when—

(1) the leave is canceled in connection with the member's participation in a contingency operation; and

(2) the cancellation occurs within 48 hours of the time the leave would have commenced.

(b) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary of Defense and, in the case of the Coast Guard when it is not operating as a service in the Navy, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall prescribe regulations to establish the criteria for the applicability of subsection (a).

(c) CONCLUSIVENESS OF SETTLEMENT.—The settlement of an application for reimbursement under subsection (a) is final and conclusive.

(Added Pub. L. 114–328, div. A, title V, §522(a), Dec. 23, 2016, 130 Stat. 2115.)

§ 710. Career flexibility to enhance retention of members

(a) PROGRAMS AUTHORIZED.—Each Secretary of a military department may carry out programs under which members of the regular components and members on Active Guard and Reserve duty of the armed forces under the jurisdiction of such Secretary may be inactivated from active service in order to meet personal or professional needs and returned to active service at the end of such period of inactivation from active service.

(b) PERIOD OF INACTIVATION FROM ACTIVE SERVICE; EFFECT OF INACTIVATION.—(1) The period of inactivation from active service under a program under this section of a member participating in the program shall be such period as the Secretary of the military department concerned shall specify in the agreement of the member under subsection (c), except that such period may not exceed three years.

(2) Any service by a Reserve officer while participating in a program under this section shall be excluded from computation of the total years of service of that officer pursuant to section 14706(a) of this title.

(3) Any period of participation of a member in a program under this section shall not count toward—

(A) eligibility for retirement or transfer to the Ready Reserve under either chapter 571 or 1223 of this title; or

(B) computation of retired or retainer pay under chapter 71 or 1223 of this title.

(c) AGREEMENT.—Each member of the armed forces who participates in a program under this section shall enter into a written agreement with the Secretary of the military department concerned under which agreement that member shall agree as follows:

(1) To accept an appointment or enlist, as applicable, and serve in the Ready Reserve of

the armed force concerned during the period of the inactivation of the member from active service under the program.

(2) To undergo during the period of the inactivation of the member from active service under the program such inactive service training as the Secretary concerned shall require in order to ensure that the member retains proficiency, at a level determined by the Secretary concerned to be sufficient, in the military skills, professional qualifications, and physical readiness of the member during the inactivation of the member from active service.

(3) Following completion of the period of the inactivation of the member from active service under the program, to serve two months as a member of the armed forces on active service for each month of the period of the inactivation of the member from active service under the program.

(d) CONDITIONS OF RELEASE.—The Secretary of Defense shall prescribe regulations specifying the guidelines regarding the conditions of release that must be considered and addressed in the agreement required by subsection (c). At a minimum, the Secretary shall prescribe the procedures and standards to be used to instruct a member on the obligations to be assumed by the member under paragraph (2) of such subsection while the member is released from active service.

(e) ORDER TO ACTIVE SERVICE.—Under regulations prescribed by the Secretary of the military department concerned, a member of the armed forces participating in a program under this section may, in the discretion of such Secretary, be required to terminate participation in the program and be ordered to active service.

(f) PAY AND ALLOWANCES.—(1) During each month of participation in a program under this section, a member who participates in the program shall be paid basic pay in an amount equal to two-thirtieths of the amount of monthly basic pay to which the member would otherwise be entitled under section 204 of title 37 as a member of the uniformed services on active service in the grade and years of service of the member when the member commences participation in the program.

(2)(A) A member who participates in a program shall not, while participating in the program, be paid any special or incentive pay or bonus to which the member is otherwise entitled under an agreement under chapter 5 of title 37 that is in force when the member commences participation in the program.

(B) The inactivation from active service of a member participating in a program shall not be treated as a failure of the member to perform any period of service required of the member in connection with an agreement for a special or incentive pay or bonus under chapter 5 of title 37 that is in force when the member commences participation in the program.

(3)(A) Subject to subparagraph (B), upon the return of a member to active service after completion by the member of participation in a program—

(i) any agreement entered into by the member under chapter 5 of title 37 for the payment