

**§ 3072. Eligibility for veterans benefits and other rights, privileges, immunities, and benefits under certain provisions of law**

**(a) In general**

Active service of officers of the Administration shall be deemed to be active military service for the purposes of all rights, privileges, immunities, and benefits under the following:

- (1) Laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs.
- (2) The Servicemembers Civil Relief Act [50 U.S.C. 3901 et seq.].
- (3) Section 410 of title 42, as in effect before September 1, 1950.

**(b) Exercise of authority**

In the administration of the laws and regulations referred to in subsection (a), with respect to the Administration, the authority vested in the Secretary of Defense and the Secretaries of the military departments and their respective departments shall be exercised by the Secretary of Commerce.

(Pub. L. 107-372, title II, §262, Dec. 19, 2002, 116 Stat. 3092; Pub. L. 108-189, §2(g), Dec. 19, 2003, 117 Stat. 2866.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Servicemembers Civil Relief Act, referred to in subsec. (a)(2), is act Oct. 17, 1940, ch. 888, 54 Stat. 1178, which is classified principally to chapter 50 (§3901 et seq.) of Title 50, War and National Defense. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Tables.

PRIOR PROVISIONS

Provisions similar to those in this section were contained in sections 857 and 857-3(a) of this title prior to repeal by Pub. L. 107-372.

AMENDMENTS

2003—Subsec. (a)(2). Pub. L. 108-189 amended par. (2) generally substituting “The Servicemembers Civil Relief Act” for “The Soldiers’ and Sailors’ Civil Relief Act of 1940 (50 App. U.S.C. 501 et seq.)”.

**§ 3073. Medical and dental care**

The Secretary may provide medical and dental care, including care in private facilities, for personnel of the Administration entitled to that care by law or regulation.

(Pub. L. 107-372, title II, §263, Dec. 19, 2002, 116 Stat. 3093.)

PRIOR PROVISIONS

Provisions similar to those in this section were contained in section 857-3(b) of this title prior to repeal by Pub. L. 107-372.

**§ 3074. Commissary privileges**

**(a) Extension of privilege**

Commissioned officers, ships’ officers, and members of crews of vessels of the Administration shall be permitted to purchase commissary and quartermaster supplies as far as available from the Armed Forces at the prices charged officers and enlisted members of the Armed Forces.

**(b) Sales of rations, stores, uniforms, and related equipment**

The Secretary may purchase ration supplies for messes, stores, uniforms, accouterments, and

related equipment for sale aboard ship and shore stations of the Administration to members of the uniformed services and to personnel assigned to such ships or shore stations. Sales shall be in accordance with regulations prescribed by the Secretary, and proceeds therefrom shall, as far as is practicable, fully reimburse the appropriations charged without regard to fiscal year.

**(c) Surviving spouses’ rights**

Rights extended to members of the uniformed services in this section are extended to their surviving spouses and to such others as are designated by the Secretary concerned.

(Pub. L. 107-372, title II, §264, Dec. 19, 2002, 116 Stat. 3093.)

PRIOR PROVISIONS

Provisions similar to those in this section were contained in section 857-4 of this title prior to repeal by Pub. L. 107-372.

**§ 3075. Authority to use appropriated funds for transportation and reimbursement of certain items**

**(a) Transportation of effects of deceased officers**

In the case of an officer who dies on active duty, the Secretary may provide, from appropriations made available to the Administration, transportation (including packing, unpacking, crating, and uncrating) of personal and household effects of that officer to the official residence of record of that officer. However, upon application by the dependents of such an officer, such transportation may be provided to such other location as may be determined by the Secretary.

**(b) Reimbursement for supplies furnished by officers to distressed and shipwrecked persons**

Under regulations prescribed by the Secretary, appropriations made available to the Administration may be used to reimburse an officer for food, clothing, medicines, and other supplies furnished by the officer—

- (1) for the temporary relief of distressed persons in remote localities; or
- (2) to shipwrecked persons who are temporarily provided for by the officer.

(Pub. L. 107-372, title II, §265, Dec. 19, 2002, 116 Stat. 3093.)

PRIOR PROVISIONS

Provisions similar to those in this section were contained in section 874 of this title prior to repeal by Pub. L. 107-372.

**§ 3076. Presentation of United States flag upon retirement**

**(a) Presentation of flag upon retirement**

Upon the release of a commissioned officer from active commissioned service for retirement, the Secretary shall present a United States flag to the officer.

**(b) Multiple presentations not authorized**

An officer is not eligible for presentation of a flag under subsection (a) if the officer has previously been presented a flag under this section