

1987—Subsec. (d)(1). Pub. L. 100-26, §7(i)(2), substituted “October 19, 1984” for “the date of the enactment of this section”.

Subsec. (e). Pub. L. 100-26, §7(k)(3), inserted “the term” after “In this section.”.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2006 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 109-364, div. A, title X, §1071(g), Oct. 17, 2006, 120 Stat. 2402, provided that the amendment made by section 1071(g)(3) is effective as of Oct. 28, 2004, and as if included in Pub. L. 108-375 as enacted.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2002 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 107-296 effective on the date of transfer of the Coast Guard to the Department of Homeland Security, see section 1704(g) of Pub. L. 107-296, set out as a note under section 101 of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1997 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 105-85 effective Jan. 1, 1998, see section 603(e) of Pub. L. 105-85, set out as a note under section 5561 of Title 5, Government Organization and Employees.

EFFECTIVE DATE

Pub. L. 98-525, title VII, §707(b), Oct. 19, 1984, 98 Stat. 2572, provided that: “Section 708 of title 10, United States Code, as added by subsection (a), shall take effect on October 1, 1985.”

§ 709. Emergency leave of absence

(a) **EMERGENCY LEAVE OF ABSENCE.**—The Secretary concerned may grant a member of the armed forces emergency leave of absence for a qualifying emergency.

(b) **LIMITATIONS.**—An emergency leave of absence under this section—

(1) may be granted only once for any member;

(2) may be granted only to prevent the member from entering unearned leave status or excess leave status; and

(3) may not extend for a period of more than 14 days.

(c) **QUALIFYING EMERGENCY.**—In this section, the term “qualifying emergency”, with respect to a member of the armed forces, means a circumstance that—

(1) is due to—

(A) a medical condition of a member of the immediate family of the member; or

(B) any other hardship that the Secretary concerned determines appropriate for purposes of this section; and

(2) is verified to the Secretary’s satisfaction based upon information or opinion from a source in addition to the member that the Secretary considers to be objective and reliable.

(d) **MILITARY DEPARTMENT REGULATIONS.**—Regulations prescribed under this section by the Secretaries of the military department shall be as uniform as practicable and shall be subject to approval by the Secretary of Defense.

(e) **DEFINITIONS.**—In this section:

(1) The term “unearned leave status” means leave approved to be used by a member of the armed forces that exceeds the amount of leave credit that has been accrued as a result of the member’s active service and that has not been previously used by the member.

(2) The term “excess leave status” means leave approved to be used by a member of the

armed forces that is unearned leave for which a member is unable to accrue leave credit during the member’s current term of service before the member’s separation.

(Added Pub. L. 107-314, div. A, title V, §572(a), Dec. 2, 2002, 116 Stat. 2557.)

§ 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