

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

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 of a special or incentive pay or bonus that was in force when the member commenced participation in the program shall be revived, with the term of such agreement after revival being the period of the agreement remaining to run when the member commenced participation in the program; and

(ii) any special or incentive pay or bonus shall be payable to the member in accordance with the terms of the agreement concerned for the term specified in clause (i).

(B)(i) Subparagraph (A) shall not apply to any special or incentive pay or bonus otherwise covered by that subparagraph with respect to a member if, at the time of the return of the member to active service as described in that subparagraph—

(I) such pay or bonus is no longer authorized by law; or

(II) the member does not satisfy eligibility criteria for such pay or bonus as in effect at the time of the return of the member to active service.

(ii) Subparagraph (A) shall cease to apply to any special or incentive pay or bonus otherwise covered by that subparagraph with respect to a member if, during the term of the revived agreement of the member under subparagraph (A)(i), such pay or bonus ceases being authorized by law.

(C) A member who is ineligible for payment of a special or incentive pay or bonus otherwise covered by this paragraph by reason of subparagraph (B)(i)(II) shall be subject to the requirements for repayment of such pay or bonus in accordance with the terms of the applicable agreement of the member under chapter 5 of title 37.

(D) Any service required of a member under an agreement covered by this paragraph after the member returns to active service as described in subparagraph (A) shall be in addition to any service required of the member under an agreement under subsection (c).

(4)(A) Subject to subparagraph (B), a member who participates in a program is entitled, while participating in the program, to the travel and transportation allowances authorized by section 474 of title 37 for—

(i) travel performed from the residence of the member, at the time of release from active service to participate in the program, to the location in the United States designated by the member as his residence during the period of participation in the program; and

(ii) travel performed to the residence of the member upon return to active service at the end of the participation of the member in the program.

(B) An allowance is payable under this paragraph only with respect to travel of a member to and from a single residence.

(5) A member who participates in a program is entitled to carry forward the leave balance existing as of the day on which the member begins

participation and accumulated in accordance with section 701 of this title, but not to exceed 60 days.

(g) PROMOTION.—(1)(A) An officer participating in a program under this section shall not, while participating in the program, be eligible for consideration for promotion under chapter 36 or 1405 of this title.

(B) Upon the return of an officer to active service after completion by the officer of participation in a program—

(i) the Secretary of the military department concerned shall adjust the date of rank of the officer in such manner as the Secretary of Defense shall prescribe in regulations for purposes of this section; and

(ii) the officer shall be eligible for consideration for promotion when officers of the same competitive category, grade, and seniority are eligible for consideration for promotion.

(2) An enlisted member participating in a program shall not be eligible for consideration for promotion during the period that—

(A) begins on the date of the inactivation of the member from active service under the program; and

(B) ends at such time after the return of the member to active service under the program that the member is treatable as eligible for promotion by reason of time in grade and such other requirements as the Secretary of the military department concerned shall prescribe in regulations for purposes of the program.

(h) CONTINUED ENTITLEMENTS.—A member participating in a program under this section shall, while participating in the program, be treated as a member of the armed forces on active duty for a period of more than 30 days for purposes of—

(1) the entitlement of the member and of the dependents of the member to medical and dental care under the provisions of chapter 55 of this title;

(2) retirement or separation for physical disability under the provisions of chapters 55 and 61 of this title;

(3) the entitlement of the member and of the survivors of the member to all death benefits under the provisions of chapter 75 of this title;

(4) the provision of all travel and transportation allowances for the survivors of deceased members to attend burial ceremonies under section 481f of title 37; and

(5) the eligibility of the member for general benefits as provided in part II of title 38.

(Added Pub. L. 115-232, div. A, title V, §551(a), Aug. 13, 2018, 132 Stat. 1766; amended Pub. L. 116-92, div. A, title VI, §602, Dec. 20, 2019, 133 Stat. 1423.)

AMENDMENTS

2019—Subsec. (h)(3) to (5). Pub. L. 116-92 added pars. (3) to (5).

**CHAPTER 41—SPECIAL APPOINTMENTS, ASSIGNMENTS, DETAILS, AND DUTIES**

Sec.  
711. Senior members of Military Staff Committee of United Nations: appointment.  
711a. American National Red Cross: detail of commissioned officers.

Sec.  
712. Foreign governments: detail to assist.  
713. State Department: assignment or detail as couriers and building inspectors.  
[714. Repealed.]  
715. Attending Physician to the Congress: grade<sup>1</sup>  
716. Commissioned officers: transfers among the armed forces, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and the Public Health Service.  
717. Members of the armed forces: participation in international sports.  
[718. Repealed.]  
719. Department of Commerce: assignment or detail of members of the armed forces to National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.  
[720 to 722. Repealed.]  
714.<sup>2</sup> Senior leaders of the Department of Defense and other specified persons: authority to provide protection within the United States.

AMENDMENTS

2018—Pub. L. 115-232, div. A, title V, §508(b), Aug. 13, 2018, 132 Stat. 1749, added item 715.  
2016—Pub. L. 114-328, div. A, title IX, §952(c)(2), Dec. 23, 2016, 130 Stat. 2375, added item 714 at the end of this analysis.  
Pub. L. 114-328, div. A, title V, §502(g)(2), (h)(2), Dec. 23, 2016, 130 Stat. 2103, struck out items 720 “Chief of Staff to President: appointment” and 722 “Attending Physician to the Congress: grade”.  
2009—Pub. L. 111-84, div. A, title V, §502(i)(2), Oct. 28, 2009, 123 Stat. 2277, struck out item 721 “General and flag officers: limitation on appointments, assignments, details, and duties outside an officer’s own service”.  
2006—Pub. L. 109-364, div. A, title V, §507(a)(1)(B), Oct. 17, 2006, 120 Stat. 2180, added item 722.  
2003—Pub. L. 108-136, div. A, title V, §503(b), Nov. 24, 2003, 117 Stat. 1456, struck out item 714 “Defense attaché in France: required grade”.  
1997—Pub. L. 105-85, div. A, title V, §§501(b), 597(b), Nov. 18, 1997, 111 Stat. 1724, 1766, added items 714 and 721.  
1994—Pub. L. 103-337, div. A, title XVI, §1671(b)(8), Oct. 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 3013, struck out item 715 “Reserve components: detail of members of regular and reserve components to assist”.  
1986—Pub. L. 99-433, title I, §110(a)(2), Oct. 1, 1986, 100 Stat. 1001, struck out item 718 “Secretary of Defense: detail of officers to assist”.  
1983—Pub. L. 98-94, title X, §1007(a)(2), Sept. 24, 1983, 97 Stat. 662, included reference to the Public Health Service in item 716.  
1980—Pub. L. 96-513, title V, §§501(9)(B), 511(23)(C), Dec. 12, 1980, 94 Stat. 2908, 2922, substituted “assignment or detail of members of the armed forces to National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration” for “assignment or detail to Environmental Science Services Administration” in item 719 and added item 720.  
Pub. L. 96-215, §2(b), Mar. 25, 1980, 94 Stat. 123, inserted “and to and from National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration” after “between armed forces” in item 716.  
1970—Pub. L. 91-392, §2, Sept. 1, 1970, 84 Stat. 834, substituted “armed forces” for “Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marine Corps” in item 716.  
1968—Pub. L. 90-235, §4(a)(1)(B), Jan. 2, 1968, 81 Stat. 759, added item 711a.  
1966—Pub. L. 89-683, §1(2), Oct. 15, 1966, 80 Stat. 960, added item 719.  
1962—Pub. L. 87-651, title I, §103(b), title II, §205(b), Sept. 7, 1962, 76 Stat. 508, 519, redesignated item 716, relating to participation of members of the armed forces in international sports, as 717, and added item 718.

<sup>1</sup> So in original. Probably should be followed by a period.  
<sup>2</sup> See 2016 Amendment note below.