

AMENDMENTS

2018—Pub. L. 115-232 renumbered section 8747 of this title as this section.

2001—Pub. L. 107-107 substituted “stolen, lost,” for “lost”.

1960—Pub. L. 86-593 inserted “Air Force cross” in section catchline and in text.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2018 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 115-232 effective Feb. 1, 2019, with provision for the coordination of amendments and special rule for certain redesignations, see section 800 of Pub. L. 115-232, set out as a note preceding section 3001 of this title.

§ 9278. Medal of honor; Air Force cross; distinguished-service cross; distinguished-service medal; silver star: availability of appropriations

The Secretary of the Air Force may spend, from any appropriation for contingent expenses of the Department of the Air Force, amounts necessary to provide medals and devices under sections 9271, 9272, 9273, 9274, 9276, 9277, and 9282 of this title.

(Aug. 10, 1956, ch. 1041, 70A Stat. 541, §8748; Pub. L. 86-593, §1(5), July 6, 1960, 74 Stat. 332; renumbered §9278 and amended Pub. L. 115-232, div. A, title VIII, §§806(b)(11), 809(a), Aug. 13, 2018, 132 Stat. 1833, 1840.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
8748	10:1424.	July 9, 1918, ch. 143 (13th par. under “Ordnance Department”), 40 Stat. 871.

The word “amounts” is substituted for the words “so much as may be”. The word “provides” is substituted for the words “defray the cost of”. The words “medals and devices under” are substituted for the words “medals of honor, distinguished-service crosses, distinguished-service medals, bars, rosettes, and other devices provided for in”. The words “from time to time” are omitted as surplusage.

AMENDMENTS

2018—Pub. L. 115-232 renumbered section 8748 of this title as this section and substituted “sections 9271, 9272, 9273, 9274, 9276, 9277, and 9282” for “sections 8741, 8742, 8743, 8744, 8746, 8747, and 8752”.

1960—Pub. L. 86-593 inserted “Air Force cross” in section catchline.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2018 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 115-232 effective Feb. 1, 2019, with provision for the coordination of amendments and special rule for certain redesignations, see section 800 of Pub. L. 115-232, set out as a note preceding section 3001 of this title.

§ 9279. Distinguished flying cross: award; limitations

(a) The President may award a distinguished flying cross of appropriate design with accompanying ribbon to any person who, while serving in any capacity with the Air Force, distinguishes himself by heroism or extraordinary achievement while participating in an aerial flight.

(b) Not more than one distinguished flying cross may be awarded to a person. However, for

each succeeding act that would otherwise justify the award of such a cross, the President may award a suitable bar or other device to be worn as he directs.

(Aug. 10, 1956, ch. 1041, 70A Stat. 541, §8749; renumbered §9279, Pub. L. 115-232, div. A, title VIII, §806(b)(11), Aug. 13, 2018, 132 Stat. 1833; Pub. L. 116-92, div. A, title V, §582(b)(4), Dec. 20, 2019, 133 Stat. 1412.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
8749(a)	10:1429 (less 2d and last sentences).	July 2, 1926, ch. 721, §12 (less 1st 49 words of last sentence), 44 Stat. 789; July 30, 1937, ch. 545, §4, 50 Stat. 549.
8749(b)	10:1429 (2d sentence).	
8749(c)	10:1429 (last sentence, less 1st 49 words).	

In subsection (a), the words “under such rules and regulations as he may prescribe” are omitted, since the President has inherent authority to issue regulations appropriate to exercising his functions. The words “but not in the name of Congress” are omitted as surplusage, since a medal is presented in the name of Congress only if the law so directs. The word “award” is substituted for the word “present” to cover the determination of the recipients as well as the actual presentation of the medal. The words “since the 6th day of April, 1917, has distinguished, or who, after July 2, 1926” and 10:1429 (proviso of 1st sentence) are omitted as executed.

AMENDMENTS

2019—Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 116-92 struck out subsec. (c) which read as follows: “No distinguished flying cross, or device in place thereof, may be awarded or presented to a person whose service after he distinguished himself has not been honorable.”

2018—Pub. L. 115-232 renumbered section 8749 of this title as this section.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2018 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 115-232 effective Feb. 1, 2019, with provision for the coordination of amendments and special rule for certain redesignations, see section 800 of Pub. L. 115-232, set out as a note preceding section 3001 of this title.

§ 9280. Airman’s Medal: award; limitations

(a)(1) The President may award a decoration called the “Airman’s Medal”, of appropriate design with accompanying ribbon, to any person who, while serving in any capacity with the Air Force, distinguishes himself by heroism not involving actual conflict with an enemy.

(2) The authority in paragraph (1) includes authority to award the medal to a member of the Ready Reserve who was not in a duty status defined in section 101(d) of this title when the member distinguished himself by heroism.

(b) Not more than one Airman’s Medal may be awarded to a person. However, for each succeeding act that would otherwise justify the award of such a medal, the President may award a suitable bar or other device to be worn as he directs.

(Aug. 10, 1956, ch. 1041, 70A Stat. 542, §8750; Pub. L. 86-593, §1(6), July 6, 1960, 74 Stat. 332; Pub. L. 105-85, div. A, title V, §574(c), Nov. 18, 1997, 111 Stat. 1758; renumbered §9280, Pub. L. 115-232, div. A, title VIII, §806(b)(11), Aug. 13, 2018, 132 Stat. 1833.)