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Author

Corporate Author

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See 503

Calendar No. 220

99TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 876

[Report No. 99-101]

To amend title 38, United States Code, to establish, extend, and improve certain Veterans' Administration health-care programs.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 3 (legislative day, FEBRUARY 18), 1985

Mr. DOLE (for Mr. MURKOWSKI, Mr. CRANSTON, Mr. SIMPSON, Mr. MATSUNAGA, Mr. STAFFORD, Mr. DECONCINI, Mr. MITCHELL, Mr. SPECTER, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mr. BOSCHWITZ, Mr. ABDNOR, and Mr. NICKLES) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

JULY 8, 1985

Reported by Mr. MURKOWSKI, with an amendment

(Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in italic)

A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to establish, extend, and improve certain Veterans' Administration health-care programs.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*
3 ~~That (a) this Act may be cited as the "Veterans' Administra-~~
4 ~~tion Health Care Programs Improvement Act of 1985".~~

1 **TITLE V—MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS**
 2 **TECHNICAL, CONFORMING AMENDMENT RELATING TO**
 3 **THE CONTINUING AVAILABILITY OF READJUSTMENT**
 4 **COUNSELING**

5 *SEC. 501. Section 612A(g)(1)(B) is amended by strik-*
 6 *ing out "who requested such counseling before such date" and*
 7 *inserting in lieu thereof "who request such counseling".*

8 **PAYMENT FOR THERAPEUTIC AND REHABILITATION**
 9 **ACTIVITIES**

10 *SEC. 502. (a) Section 618 is amended by adding at the*
 11 *end the following new subsection:*

12 *"(g) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no*
 13 *amount of remuneration provided to an individual as a par-*
 14 *ticipant in a therapeutic or rehabilitative activity carried out*
 15 *pursuant to this section shall be included in determining*
 16 *annual income for purposes of pension payments.".*

17 *(b) The amendment made by subsection (a) shall take*
 18 *effect on October 1, 1985.*

19 **REPORT ON FEDERAL GOVERNMENT RESPONSIBILITY TO**
 20 **INDIVIDUALS WHO SERVED WITH VOLUNTARY CI-**
 21 **VILIAN ORGANIZATIONS IN VIETNAM**

22 *SEC. 503. (a)(1) The purpose of this section is to pro-*
 23 *vide a basis for the executive branch and the Congress to*
 24 *evaluate the question of United States Government responsi-*
 25 *bility, and alternative approaches, for providing individuals*
 26 *who, for a period of at least 30 days during the Vietnam era,*

1 were employed in the Republic of Vietnam by (including
2 having served there under the auspices of) voluntary organi-
3 zations, determined by the Administrator of Veterans' Af-
4 fairs, in consultation with the Secretary of Defense, to be
5 organizations which provided significant assistance to the
6 United States Armed Forces in the Republic of Vietnam
7 during the Vietnam era, with Federal and other benefits and
8 services (including, but not limited to, health care and mone-
9 tary compensation for disabilities which may be related to
10 their experiences during such employment in the Republic of
11 Vietnam), either through the Veterans' Administration or
12 otherwise, and for assisting such individuals in connection
13 with disabilities they may have incurred as a result of such
14 employment.

15 (2) In order to carry out the purpose stated in para-
16 graph (1), the Administrator, the Secretary of Defense, and
17 the Secretary of Health and Human Services, not later than
18 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, shall
19 submit to the appropriate committees of the Congress a joint
20 report on the question of United States Government responsi-
21 bility and shall include in such report various alternative
22 approaches (together with comments on the appropriateness
23 and the advantages and disadvantages of each) and any rec-
24 ommendations by such officials for legislative and adminis-
25 trative action with respect thereto, for establishing a program

1 *for providing such benefits, services, and assistance to such*
 2 *individuals.*

3 • *(b) For the purpose of this section—*

4 *(1) the term "Armed Forces" has the meaning*
 5 *given such term in section 101(10) of title 38, United*
 6 *States Code; and*

7 *(2) the term "Vietnam era" means the periods de-*
 8 *scribed in section 101(29) (as amended by section*
 9 *201(a) of this Act) of such title.*

10 **LAND TRANSFER, PHOENIX, ARIZONA**

11 *SEC. 504. (a) The real property described in subsection*
 12 *(b) and the structures thereon on the date of the enactment of*
 13 *this Act shall be transferred without compensation or reim-*
 14 *bursement from the control and jurisdiction of the General*
 15 *Services Administration to the control and jurisdiction of the*
 16 *Veterans' Administration.*

17 *(b) The real property referred to in subsection (a) is a*
 18 *tract of land consisting of 3.25 acres, more or less, in Phoeh-*
 19 *nix, Arizona, that—*

20 *(1) was formerly part of the Veterans' Adminis-*
 21 *tration Medical Center, Phoenix, Arizona; and*

22 *(2) was declared to be excess to the needs of the*
 23 *Veterans' Administration in a report to the General*
 24 *Services Administration dated September 25, 1959.*