

## EXTENDING TIME FOR APPLICATION FOR BENEFITS UNDER ADJUSTED COMPENSATION ACT

MAY 16 (legislative day, APRIL 24), 1940.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. CLARK of Missouri, from the Committee on Finance, submitted the following

### R E P O R T

[To accompany S. 1910]

The Committee on Finance, to whom was referred the bill (S. 1910) to extend the time within which applications for benefits under the World War Adjusted Compensation Act, as amended, may be filed, having considered the same, report favorably thereon with an amendment and recommend that the bill, as amended, do pass.

The amendment is as follows:

Page 1, line 7, strike out "1950" and insert in lieu thereof "1945".

The original Adjusted Compensation Act, which became law May 19, 1924, provided that application for benefits thereunder should be made on or before January 1, 1928. An amendatory act of May 29, 1928, extended the final date for filing application for benefits to January 2, 1930. The act of June 5, 1930, further extended the final date for filing for benefits to January 2, 1935, and the act of August 23, 1935, extended the final date for filing application to January 2, 1940. Attention is called to the fact that the time for filing application has now expired, and the purpose of the proposed legislation is to extend the time from the date of expiration under present law; that is, January 2, 1940, for a period of 5 years, or until January 2, 1945.

When the World War Adjusted Compensation Act was enacted it was intended by the Congress that the benefits thereunder should be available to all eligible veterans of the World War or their dependents. Based upon the best available information, it is estimated that the number of veterans who are entitled to benefits under the provisions of the act, and from whom it is estimated applications had not been received from either the veterans or their dependents as of January 2, 1940, is approximately 120,770. A number of those who have failed to file are mental cases and many others have failed to

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file due to their lack of knowledge of the law. Your committee feels also that many have not filed due to their favorable financial circumstances, and that a change of their financial status will no doubt necessitate many of them, or their dependents, making application.

The Administrator of Veterans' Affairs has submitted an adverse report to the Committee, submitting that in his opinion veterans have had ample opportunity to be informed relative to the time limitations for filing applications for benefits and that the need for a further extension of time is not apparent. Your committee, is not in accord with the arguments made by the Veterans' Administration, and for reasons outlined above, recommend that the bill, as amended, be passed.

