
PROVIDING FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AID FOR THE
READJUSTMENT IN CIVILIAN LIFE OF RETURNING
WORLD WAR II VETERANS

MARCH 18, 1944.—Ordered to be printed

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

REPORT

[To accompany S. 1767]

The Committee on Finance, to whom was referred the bill (S. 1767) to provide Federal Government aid for the readjustment in civilian life of returning World War II veterans, report the bill back with sundry amendments with the recommendation that the amendments be agreed to and the bill as amended do pass.

The amendments, many of which are merely for the purposes of clarity, appear hereinafter in the reported bill, and their effect will be discussed in the analysis of the bill.

This measure is designed to be a comprehensive bill of rights for the returning veterans of the present titanic conflict. It aims to state comprehensively and clearly the rights and benefits to which these veterans will be entitled and to state clearly and simply the way in which these rights may be obtained.

The bill sets up an over-all control of these activities in the Veterans' Administration to the end that the veteran may have one central agency with whom he may qualify and one agency to whom he may look to insure the enjoyment of his rights. At the same time Congress will have one agency which may be held responsible for the proper carrying out of the will of Congress with regard to these benefits.

It is contemplated that under the general supervision of the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs all suitable governmental agencies both Federal and State will be employed. No one has any idea of putting the Administrator in the business of education or agriculture or housing but it is designed to set up one central agency for the protection and benefit of the returning veterans.

The bill recognizes by law the Veterans Administration not only as an important post-war agency but an exceedingly important war agency and it gives it necessary priorities to enable it to carry out its

essential functions of hospitalization, rehabilitation and other activities. It includes provision for the fullest protection of the rights of the veteran to the end that there shall be no interval between his release from the armed forces and the taking up of his interests by the Veterans Administration. It includes provision for the further education of veterans, for unemployment benefits, for loans in aid of the purchase, construction or repair of homes, farms and business property, for the assistance to veterans in obtaining employment and for other benefits more particularly described later in this report.

Your committee recognizes that this bill authorizes a program which will be costly to the Nation. Yet we view it as true economy. None can deny that it is part of the bare bones necessary cost of the war. We regard it as the best money that can be spent for the future welfare of the Nation. The men and women who compose our armed forces and who will compose our armed forces before the end of the war not only now hold the destiny of this Republic firmly in their hands, they will so hold it for a generation to come. To the extent to which these men and women can be speedily reintegrated into the civilian population the consummation of all of our hopes and prayers for national security and advancement depend. At the conclusion of the last war all of the nations involved save only the United States and to a lesser extent Great Britain failed dismally in this task of reintegration of the civilian population, and thereby planted the seeds of the present war.

If the trained and disciplined efficiency and valor of the men and women of our armed forces can be directed into the proper channels, we shall have a better country to live in than the world has ever seen. If we should fail in that task, disaster and chaos are inevitable.

This bill is admittedly more extensive and generous in its benefits to returning veterans than any bill previously introduced as to this or any other war. We believe that this is entirely justifiable in view of the character of service in this war.

The bill is presented as being a fundamental bill of rights to facilitate the return of service men and women to civilian life. The committee does not contend that it is or can be the last word on the subject. We do assert that it is a comprehensive statement of the measures presently necessary and that it represents the very least that should be done at this time both in justice to the veterans and in enlightened self interest for the remainder of the country.

HISTORY OF THE LEGISLATION

Under Senate Resolution 225, introduced December 21, 1943, a subcommittee of the Committee on Finance held extensive hearings and conducted an intensive study of the problems relating to the readjustment in civil life of veterans of World War II. The committee had for its consideration also, Senate Resolution 230, introduced January 11, 1944, concerning the administration of the laws conferring benefits upon disabled veterans of the present war, with a view to ascertaining whether there are unreasonable delays in determining eligibility for and making awards of such benefits. Through reports from the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs and testimony of the Administrator and of representatives of the War and Navy Departments, as well as of veterans' organizations, it appeared that every effort is being made to eliminate unnecessary delays in the administration of

the present statutes, that much progress is being made in this respect, that the Mustering-out Pay Act helps to bridge the gap, and that consideration should now be given to legislation necessary to afford improved procedures and to grant additional relief pertaining particularly to the immediate post-war adjustment period. Many bills, including S. 1545, a bill to amend the Social Security Act, to give insurance credits under the Federal old-age and survivors' insurance provisions of that act for military service, and to provide unemployment allowances for members of the armed forces after their demobilization; S. 1495, a bill to provide adjusted-service compensation and to provide a 3 months' furlough with pay prior to discharge for persons who served in the military or naval forces of the United States during the present war, and S. 1617, a bill embodying recommendations of the two largest veterans' organizations, to which bill numerous amendments were offered by several Senators. Further hearings were held on the latter bill and the proposed amendments, and as a result of such further consideration, there was introduced on March 13, 1944, S. 1767, which bill was sponsored by more than 70 Senators. This bill was considered in executive session extending over several days and the amendments as reported herein were agreed upon and the bill was reintroduced March 17, 1944.

ANALYSIS OF THE BILL

The general purpose of the bill as amended is stated in the title, "to provide Federal Government aid for the readjustment in civilian life of returning World War II veterans." It consists of six titles, covering the entire scope of the post-war veteran readjustment program not already enacted into law, excepting only the question of extension of social security (old-age and survivors' insurance) provisions of the Social Security Act to persons in the armed forces of the United States or alternatively, the freezing of the status of such persons as were covered as of the date they entered active service. The laws now in effect pertaining to veterans' benefits include those for pensions, insurance, hospitalization and domiciliary care, medical care and treatment including prosthetic appliances, vocational training or rehabilitation, and mustering-out pay for all persons in the active service, subject to statutory exceptions and entitlement criteria. It is the view of the committee that the enactment of this bill will render unnecessary any consideration of adjusted compensation, and that the benefits provided by the bill, if enacted into law, will be of greater advantage to veterans, at a lesser expense to the Government, than could possibly be accomplished by an Adjusted Compensation Act, at least under factors known or readily foreseeable at this time. The bill, as amended, was reported unanimously by the committee.

TITLE I

Title I of the bill relates to procedures and other matters pertaining to hospitalization and claims of veterans.

Section 100, as amended, insures recognition of the Veterans' Administration as an essential war agency, entitled to priorities for personnel, equipment, supplies, and material second only to the War and Navy Departments.

Section 101 authorizes and directs the establishment of additional hospital facilities and additional regional offices, suboffices, branch offices, contact units, or other subordinate offices in centers of population where required, and where not now available.

Section 102 authorizes the interchange of hospital and domiciliary facilities between the Veterans' Administration and the War or Navy Department as agreed upon by the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs, the Secretary of War, or Secretary of the Navy, respectively, subject to a limitation that such agreements shall not result in permanent reduction of Veterans' Administration hospital and domiciliary beds below the number required for eligible veterans, nor subordinate or transfer the operation of the Veterans' Administration to any other agency of the Government. The section contains a further provision affording specific statutory authority for the detail or transfer of commissioned or enlisted personnel from the War or Navy Department to the Veterans' Administration.

Section 103 authorizes the Administrator to place designated officials and employees in Army and Navy installations for the purpose of giving aid and advice to members of the armed forces about to be discharged, or to adjudicate the disability claims of such persons.

Section 104 requires, preliminary to discharge or release from active duty, that a certificate of discharge and the soldier's final pay, or substantial portion thereof, be ready for delivery to him or to some person on his account, and that no person shall be discharged or released from active service on account of disability until he shall have executed a claim for compensation, pension, or hospitalization to be filed with the Veterans' Administration, or has signed a statement that he does not at the time desire to file any such claim. There are safeguarding provisos to insure possibility of immediate discharge of persons who refuse to cooperate in the signing of such claims or statements.

Section 105 provides that no person in the active service may be required to sign a statement of any nature relating to the origin, incurrence, or aggravation of any disease he may have, or any other statement against his own interest, and provides that in the adjudication of any claim any such statements heretofore signed shall be disregarded.

Section 200 authorizes the Secretary of War or the Secretary of the Navy to make provision for permitting accredited representatives of veterans' organizations, certified by the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs, to aid and assist persons in the active service and who are about to be discharged or released therefrom in the preparation and presentation of their claims for benefits under the laws administered by the Veterans' Administration. This would be in addition to the American Red Cross which has statutory basis for, and is, affording similar service.

Section 300 authorizes the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs to review certain cases wherein the veteran was separated from active service by a dishonorable discharge or a discharge for certain causes generally considered as constituting dishonorable conditions, and upon his determination that the person was insane at the time the offense was committed, he may authorize benefits otherwise payable under such laws. The proviso makes clear that section 300 applies

only to benefits in the nature of a gratuity and does not apply to policies of Government (converted) or national service life insurance.

Section 301 authorizes the establishment by the Secretary of War or the Secretary of the Navy of boards of review, which boards are given authority upon the request of a former officer or enlisted person to consider the type and nature of discharge or dismissal except one by sentence of court martial, and upon the facts found, to change, correct, or modify such discharge or dismissal with the exception stated. The Articles of War and the Articles for the Government of the Navy are modified accordingly, and provision is made that the findings of the boards shall be subject to the final approval of the Secretary of War or Secretary of the Navy as the case may be.

TITLE II

Title II concerns the education of veterans other than those entitled to vocational rehabilitation under Public Law 16, Seventy-eighth Congress.

The purpose of this title is to afford education or training strictly as a veterans' benefit to be administered by the Veterans' Administration in a direct and simple manner as is done with respect to vocational rehabilitation training under Public Law 16, Seventy-eighth Congress; yet at the same time permitting the use of existing, or to be created, Federal or State machinery, agencies or facilities. The same authority exists under said Public Law 16, and it is desired to leave it within the wise discretion of the Administrator to make such use thereof as may be found desirable, and yet retain control and complete responsibility in the Veterans' Administration. It is the purpose not to set up the Veterans' Administration as an educational agency nor to establish any educational organization, but to provide education and training as a veterans' benefit to be administered by the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs.

Section 400 further amends section 1, title I, Public Law 2, Seventy-third Congress, by adding Veterans Regulation No. 1 (a), part VIII, providing for the education of veterans.

Paragraph 1 of part VIII establishes the criteria for eligibility providing in effect, that any person who served in the active service on or after September 16, 1940, and prior to the termination of the present war who shall have been released from active service under conditions other than dishonorable shall be eligible for education or training. There is a limitation that such person shall have served not less than 6 months, or otherwise shall have been discharged or released from active service by reason of an actual incurred service injury or disability. The purpose of this last provision is to afford an opportunity for education or training to one who is released from the active service of less than 6 months, caused by an injury actually received in or caused by service as distinguished from one service connected by virtue of the liberal presumptions pertaining to service incurrence or aggravation of disabilities for pension purposes.

Paragraph 2 provides for the appointment by the President upon recommendation of the Administrator of a Director of Servicemen's Education and Training, who, subject to the direction of the Administrator, shall administer the provisions of part VIII. Elsewhere the term "Administrator" is defined as meaning the Administrator of

Veterans' Affairs unless context otherwise requires. Provision is made for the issuance of necessary rules and regulations, the appointment of additional necessary officers and employees within the limits of applicable appropriations, and for the use of Federal or State educational or vocational agencies subject to agreements with the responsible heads of such agencies.

Paragraph 3 authorizes the establishment of an advisory council to aid and advise in the administration of part VIII. Such council shall consist of the Secretary of War, the Secretary of the Navy, the Secretary of Agriculture, the Federal Security Administrator, the United States Commissioner of Education, and the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs as chairman, together with eight representatives of the public who are recognized leaders in the fields of education, labor, agriculture and industry and who are authorized to be appointed by the President upon the recommendation of the Administrator. The provision is made for necessary travel expenses and per diem of members of the council, the latter confined to appointed members.

Paragraph 4 authorizes anyone eligible under paragraph 1 to receive education or training at any approved educational training institution in which the person desires to enroll, subject to acceptance by such institution and regardless of whether the institution is in the State of which the person is a resident.

Paragraph 5 authorizes a course of education or training not to exceed a period of 1 year, or for such lesser time as may be required to complete the course chosen, with the limitation that such course shall begin not later than 2 years after date of discharge or release from active duty or date of termination of the war, whichever is later, and that no education or training shall be afforded beyond 7 years after the termination of the war.

Paragraph 6 authorizes additional education or training, except as to a refresher or retraining course, which latter may not exceed 1 year as provided in paragraph 5, and provides that such additional or further period of education or training shall not exceed 3 additional years nor the total period of time the person served in the active service during the period of the war, in addition to the 6 months qualifying service, and exclusive of periods of education or training received under the Army specialized training program or the Navy college training program, or as a cadet at one of the service academies. The amendment authorizes, subject to the above limitations, the automatic continuation of education or training upon application by the veteran subject only to satisfactory completion of the first year's course and continued satisfactory progress to be determined under rules and regulations prescribed by the Administrator.

Paragraph 7 authorizes the payment of tuition and other fees and charges customarily paid by other students, and as may be approved by the Administrator, subject to a limitation of not to exceed \$500 for an ordinary school year. Provision is made that the Administrator may determine that such charges of a publicly supported institution are inadequate and that upon such determination he may provide for such compensation as he may find to be fair and reasonable, but not to exceed the \$500 limitation prescribed.

Paragraph 8 authorizes the payment of subsistence allowance of \$50 per month while the person is receiving education or training with an additional \$25 per month if he has a dependent or dependents.

It also authorizes a lesser amount, or no allowance, for persons who receive education or training on a part-time basis, or who receive compensation for productive labor performed as a part of their training. This would permit a veteran to receive part-time training at reduced or no subsistence allowance while he is employed on a remunerative job.

Paragraph 9 enables the Administrator to arrange for necessary education and vocational guidance to persons who are eligible for the benefits of part VIII and to make available certain information with respect to general education and training needs with the limitation that other Federal facilities engaged in collecting such information shall be utilized.

Paragraph 10 is the usual provision for annual report to the Congress.

Paragraph 11 as amended authorizes the President upon recommendation of the Administrator to request the chief executive of any State to designate the legally constituted State agency, or if none available, to create a special board for the purpose of furnishing lists of approved education or training institutions in the State which are found, in accordance with standards to be established by the Administrator, to be qualified to provide education or training to persons eligible therefor. The provisos are for the purpose of insuring that the determinations of the Administrator as to availability or propriety of any such institution for such purpose shall be final, but authorize the securing of advice from an advisory committee which may be appointed by the chief executive of the State upon the request of the President and the recommendation of the Administrator, which advisory committee consists of persons representing the elementary, secondary, and vocational schools, colleges, junior colleges, professional schools, universities, and other educational institutions, business and other establishments providing apprentice or job training. The amendment would provide for the utilization of the State agency having charge of apprenticeship training under prescribed conditions.

Paragraph 12 defines the term "State" and the terms "educational or training institution," as used in part VIII. The latter definition is sufficiently broad to encompass any approved institution. Those mentioned are not intended to be exclusive but rather illustrative. Restrictions are provided to insure compliance with State and Federal laws relating to fair wages as well as health, safety, and other conditions of labor.

Paragraph 13 is intended to preclude a person receiving vocational rehabilitation under part VII and education or training under part VIII, but authorizes any person eligible for both benefits to elect which he shall receive with a limitation that he may not receive under part VIII more subsistence allowance than he would receive by way of increased pension under part VII. This is considered essential in order that the provisions pertaining to vocational rehabilitation and to education and training may be properly administered without duplication.

Paragraph 14 is to make clear that no Federal agency or officer shall exercise any supervision or control over any State agency.

Section 401 amends section 3, Public Law 16, Seventy-eighth Congress, so as to make the appropriations for the Veterans' Administration available for administration of part VIII as well as part VII.

Section 402 adds an additional new section applying to both part VII and part VIII authorizing a trainee or a student to retain books and equipment supplied him as such unless he, through his own fault, failed to complete satisfactorily a course of training or education provided under part VII or part VIII.

Section 403, consistent with the provisions of paragraph 1 of part VIII, changes the dates as prescribed in sections 1 and 2, Public Law 16, Seventy-eighth Congress, so as to include any service after September 16, 1940, rather than limit service to a period after December 6, 1941.

TITLE III

Title III contains the provisions respecting the authorizations of loans to eligible veterans for the purchase, construction, or improvement of homes, farms, and business property.

Section 500 (a) contains the general eligibility provisions which, with certain exceptions, are consistent with those required for the other benefits of the act and similar to those contained in the Mustering-Out Pay Act, 1944 (Public Law 225, 78th Cong.). There is a requirement of a minimum of 90 days' service unless prior discharge is required by reason of disability incurred in line of duty; and elimination, for eligibility purposes, of service from which a person shall have been discharged at his own request unless he had service outside the continental limits of the United States, in which event such service may be counted. Any person so eligible may apply to the Administrator for a loan subject to the latter provisions of the title.

Section 500 (b) limits the amount of loans made to one veteran to a sum or sums not exceeding \$1,000, authorizes such loan to be made at no interest for the first year, and at the rate of 3 percent per annum, compounded annually thereafter. No guarantor is required and no security other than a lien which shall be subject to any lien covering the balance of the purchase price or cost of construction or improvement, or, in some jurisdictions, ground rents in connection with a leasehold estate. Loans for such purposes may not be denied to those eligible because of another loan made to finance any part of the remainder of the purchase price or cost of construction or improvement or because lien on the property is given security for such other loan.

Section 500 (c) provides that any loan made under this title shall be repayable to the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs, except as otherwise provided in the title, shall be subject to such terms and conditions as may be prescribed jointly by the Administrator and the head of the Department to whom the application is submitted for approval of the loan. The language of the section as a whole is construed also to permit loans to be made for the purposes stated therein, regardless of whether the loan for the balance of the purchase price or cost is made by a Federal agency or by a private lending agency.

Section 501 describes the conditions necessary to be met before such loan may be approved and authorizes the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs to designate the agency or agencies which he deems appropriate for determining whether the loan applied for meets such conditions.

He may also designate the agency to which any application shall be submitted for approval unless the veteran requests in his application that the loan be made by the Federal Housing Administration shall be designated.

Section 502 (a) contains similar conditions respecting loans for the purpose of purchasing land, buildings, livestock, equipment, machinery, or implements, or improvements thereon to be used in farming operations. The Secretary of Agriculture is required to advise as to the propriety of loans authorized in the said section. Subsection (b) makes veterans eligible for the benefits of this title eligible also for the benefits of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act, subject to approval of the Secretary of Agriculture.

Section 503 provides similar conditions for loans to be used in the purchase of business, land, buildings, supplies, equipment, machinery, or tools, or improvements thereon, to be used in pursuing a gainful occupation other than farming. The Secretary of Commerce shall pass on the propriety of such loans, subject to the conditions specified.

TITLE IV

Title IV, relating to the employment of veterans, provides no additional specific benefits as such but is intended to afford cooperative efforts to insure that veterans will receive full advantage of the United States Employment Service. As stated in section 600 (a), it is the intention of the Congress that there shall be an effective job-counseling and employment placement service for veterans, and that policies shall be promulgated and administered so as to provide for them the maximum opportunity in the field of gainful employment. Section 600 will create in the United States Employment Service a Veterans' Placement Service Board, consisting of the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs as Chairman, the Director of the National Selective Service System, and the Administrator of the Federal Security Agency or other official having the responsibility of administering the functions of the United States Employment Service. The Board shall determine all matters of policy relating to the administration of the Veterans' Employment Service. The Chairman of the Board, through an executive secretary who shall be also the Chief of the Veterans' Employment Service of the United States Employment Service, shall have direct authority and responsibility for carrying out the policies established by the Board, which shall be effectuated through the veterans' employment representatives in the several States. Certain records of other specified services are made available to the Board.

Section 601 requires the United States Employment Service to assign to each State a veterans' employment representative who is required to be a war veteran and who will be appointed subject to civil-service laws and the approval of the Board. He will be administratively responsible to the Veterans' Placement Board created by section 600, and will carry out the Board policies, but will function with and through the public employment service in the State. In cooperation with the public employment service staff in the State, he will be responsible for the supervision of registration of veterans in local employment offices; assist in securing and maintaining current information as to available employment; promote interest of employers in employing veterans; maintain regular contact with employers and

veterans' organizations, and assist in every possible way in improving working conditions and the advancement of employment of veterans.

Section 602 authorizes, where deemed necessary by the Board, the assignment in each State of one or more employees of the staffs of local employment service offices to assist in the discharge of the duties prescribed in the preceding section.

Section 603 requires that all Federal agencies shall make available to the Board such records, statistics, or information as may be deemed necessary or appropriate in the administration of this title.

Section 604 prescribes that failure of the employment service of a State to give preference to qualified registered veterans on job assignments and to cooperate in the execution of the policies of the Board shall be sufficient cause to withhold funds otherwise available to the State under the act of June 6, 1933, until such time as the service complies with the laws and regulations governing the Board's administration of its duties under this title. The amendment is designed to insure the maintenance of the United States Employment Service as a distinct operating entity for the purpose of effectuating the provisions of this title.

Section 605 (a) places upon the Board the responsibility of estimating the appropriation necessary for the proper and efficient administration of this title by separate items, and provides that the sums so estimated shall be included in a special item in the annual budget of the United States Employment Service, and may not be used for any other purpose except upon the approval of the Board.

(b) Requires the War Manpower Commission to allocate from its current appropriation sufficient funds to carry out the provisions of the title during the current fiscal year.

Section 606 defines the term "United States Employment Service" as being the Bureau created by the provisions of the act of June 6, 1933, or its successor.

TITLE V

Title V covers the field of unemployment insurance or "readjustment allowances" for World War II veterans.

Section 700 (a) prescribes the basic eligibility criteria similar to those in existing statutes and in other titles of this act, and in addition, authorizes the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs to prescribe, subject to the provisions of this title and regulations issued thereunder, a readjustment allowance for each week of unemployment not to exceed a total of 52 weeks, which period begins after the effective date of this act and occurs during the 24-month period after the final payment of mustering-out pay to the individual veteran. There are safeguarding provisions to prevent duplication of unemployment allowance, mustering-out pay, increased pension under part VII, Veterans Regulation No. 1 (a), as amended, or subsistence allowance under part VIII of such regulation as added by title II of this act. There is an over-all limitation that no such allowance shall be payable for any week commencing more than 5 years after termination of the present war.

(b) Contains additional limitations requiring that the person be a resident of the United States at the time of claim; that he is completely unemployed, or if partially unemployed, that the services have

been performed for less than a full workweek, and wages for the week are less than the allowance of this title plus \$3; that he is registered with and reports to a public employment office or other agency designated by the Administrator in accordance with regulations, and that he is able to work, and available for suitable work, with a saving proviso that ineligibility shall not be based upon failure to comply with such provisions if the failure be due to an illness or disability occurring after the commencement of the period in question.

Section 800 (a) provides further disqualifications as follows:

(1) If the claimant leaves suitable work voluntarily without good cause or is suspended or discharged for misconduct in the course of employment;

(2) If he, without good cause, fails to apply for suitable work, or to accept suitable work;

(3) If he, without good cause, does not attend a free training course other than training provided under title II of this act.

(b) Provides additional disqualifications if it be found that the veteran's unemployment is due to a stoppage of work which exists because of a labor dispute at the place where he is or was last employed, with a proviso that this disqualification shall not apply if it be shown that the veteran—

(1) Is not participating in or directly interested in the labor dispute;

(2) Does not belong to a grade or class of workers participating in or directly interested in the dispute, or members of which were employed at the premises where the stoppage occurs, and immediately before such stoppage.

There is a further saving provision confining the application of those provisions to separate branches, businesses conducted in separate premises or departments, and requiring that they be deemed to be separate factory, establishment, or premises.

(c) (1) Any claimant disqualified under any of the three disqualifications provided in section 800 (a) shall be denied any readjustment allowance for the week in which the cause of disqualification occurred, and for not more than the 4 immediately following weeks. The amendments to this subsection (c) are intended to provide the same penalty for the three classes of disqualifying conditions prescribed in (a).

(2) Authorizes the Administrator to prescribe additional penalty not to exceed 8 weeks for each successive disqualification under the provisions of section 800 (a) when in the judgment of the Administrator such additional penalty would further the purposes of the title.

(d) (1) Defines the standards for determining suitability of work or the existence of good cause with respect to a claimant, and provides that there shall be considered, not to the exclusion of other factors, the degree of risk involved to his health, safety, and morals, his physical fitness and prior training, his experience and prior or probable earnings in his customary occupation or one for which he had been trained, the length of his unemployment, his prospects for obtaining work in his customary occupation or one for which he has been trained, the distance of available work from his residence, and the prospects for obtaining local work. The fact that the wages are less than the unemployment allowance shall not be considered a factor.

(2) Declares that for the purposes of section 800 no work shall be deemed suitable if—

- (A) the position offered is vacant due to a strike; or
- (B) the wages, hours, or other conditions of the work offered are substantially less favorable than those prevailing for similar work in the locality.

The amendment deleting a provision of the bill pertaining to non-suitability of work if the veteran as a condition of labor be required to join, to refrain from joining, or to resign from a labor organization leaves this a matter for regulation.

Section 900 (a) specifies the unemployment allowances, providing that the weekly allowance shall be \$15, plus \$5 if the claimant has one dependent; \$8 if he have two dependents, and \$10 if he have three or more dependents, less that part of any wages paid him for such week which is in excess of \$3, with a provision requiring that the allowance so computed be in the next highest multiple of \$1.

(b) Prescribes the fundamental limitation that the sum total of allowances shall depend upon length of service. Specifically, it provides that for each calendar month or fraction thereof of active service the veteran shall be entitled to 8 weeks of allowances within the limitations provided in section 700.

(c) Prescribes the definitions for dependent, described as a lawful wife or dependent husband, unmarried child under 18 years of age or otherwise incapable of self-support by reason of mental or physical defect and who is a legitimate child, child legally adopted, stepchild if a member of the claimant's household, or a child to whom the claimant stood in loco parentis and has borne such relationship for not less than 12 months prior to the date of claim on behalf of such child. Provision is made whereby the Administrator may determine dependency and if the child be dependent on more than one claimant, allowance shall, be made only to one as determined by the Administrator. Further where a claimant asks for an allowance for a dependent separated from him under court order or written agreement, the allowance shall be not in excess of the amount fixed in the court order or the agreement.

Section 901 provides that the allowances shall be paid at reasonable intervals as prescribed by the Administrator, and that any allowance remaining unpaid upon the death of the person entitled shall not be considered a part of the assets of his estate, liable for the payment of his debts, or subject to any administration of his estate, but that the Administrator may make payment thereof to such person or persons he finds most equitably entitled thereto.

Section 1000. Any allowance payable under this title shall be reduced by the amount received by the veteran for the same week under any Federal or State unemployment or disability compensation law, or any Federal or State noncontributory benefit other than pension, compensation, or retirement pay paid by the Veterans' Administration.

Section 1100 (a) vests the responsibility of administration of title V in the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs and authorizes him so far as possible and subject to mutual agreements to utilize the existing facilities and services of Federal and State departments or agencies. Procedures for the filing of claims through established public employment offices and State unemployment compensation agencies, on the processing, determination, and paying such claims through such

agencies, subject to mutual agreements, are authorized. Provision is made for the assignment of a representative of the Administrator with each participating State department or agency for the purpose of facilitating the carrying out of the agreements made with such agencies and the accomplishment of the responsibilities placed upon the Administrator by this title.

(b) Authorizes the Administrator to prescribe necessary rules and regulations and require necessary records and reports to carry out the purposes of the title, but provides that prior to the adoption of any rules and regulations relating to the performance of Federal or State departments or agencies with which agreements have been made, consultation with such departments or agencies shall be had.

(c) Authorizes the Administrator to delegate to any officer or employee of the Veterans' Administration, or of any other department or agency of the Federal Government or of any State any powers and duties placed upon him by the title except that of prescribing rules and regulations. As a safeguard the Administrator may require such officer or employee to give a surety bond to the United States in such amount as the Administrator may deem necessary, the cost thereof to be paid out of sums appropriated for administration of the title.

(d) The allowances are prescribed to be paid upon certification by the Administrator by the Division of Disbursement of the Treasury prior to audit and settlement by the General Accounting Office.

(e) The Administrator is authorized to certify to the Secretary of the Treasury for payment in advance or otherwise such sums as he estimates to be necessary to compensate any Federal department or agency for its administrative expenses under the title. Such sums shall cover periods not in excess of 6 months.

The Administrator is also authorized to certify to the Social Security Board such State departments or agencies as may be participating in the administration of the title. Upon such certification the Social Security Board shall, in addition to the amounts certified under the provisions of section 302 (a) of the Social Security Act, as amended, certify to the Secretary of the Treasury for payment to each State such amounts as the Social Security Board determines to be necessary for the administrative expense of the State under this title.

(f) Any money so paid to any cooperating agency, person, or institution which is not used for the purpose for which it was paid shall, upon termination of the agreement with such agency, person, or institution, be returned to the Treasury and credited to the current appropriation for carrying out the purpose of this title, or, if returned after the expiration of the time limited in the title shall be covered into the Treasury as miscellaneous receipts.

Section 1101 protects designated certifying officers from liability except for gross negligence, or intent to defraud the United States, and likewise, with similar exceptions, any disbursing officer with respect to any payment made by him based upon a voucher signed by a designated certifying officer.

Section 1102. Any claimant whose claim has been denied is guaranteed a fair hearing before an impartial tribunal of the State agency, or any such other agency as may be designated by the Administrator. As to such contested claims the decision of the representative of the Administrator shall be final subject only to appeal to the Administrator.

Section 1200 makes applicable to this title the authority under existing statute (Public Law 844, 78th Cong.) to make investigations, to administer oaths and to issue subpoenas, together with the authority granted by such statute to invoke the aid of the courts of the United States in case of disobedience to any subpoena issued pursuant thereto.

Section 1300 requires any person to report the occurrence of any event making him ineligible for, or reducing his allowance, and prescribes a penalty of ineligibility of 4 weeks for employment benefits for failure so to report.

Section 1400 prescribes penalties for the making of false statements or representations as to any wages paid or received, for making or causing to be made any false statements of material fact in any claim for any allowance under this title, or the making or causing to be made any false statement, representation, affidavit, or document in connection with any claim under the title, and provides that any person so offending shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof shall be fined \$1,000 or imprisoned for not more than 1 year, or both. A similar penalty is provided for anyone who shall obtain or receive any money, check, or allowance under this title, without being entitled thereto and with intent to defraud the United States.

Section 1500 prescribes definitions of the term "week" to mean period or periods of 7 consecutive calendar days as may be prescribed in regulations, the term "United States" to include the several States, the District of Columbia, Alaska, Hawaii, and Puerto Rico, the term "State" to include, in addition to the several States, the District of Columbia, Alaska, Hawaii, and Puerto Rico, the term "wages" to mean all remuneration for services from whatever sources, including commissions and bonuses and the cash value of remuneration received in kind, and the term "noncontributory benefit" to mean a cash benefit, allowance, annuity, or compensation, to include payments under a workmen's compensation law, payable by reason of the past employment of any individual under any law or plan of the United States, as of any State, Territory, or possession, or of the District of Columbia, or of any political subdivision or instrumentality of any of the foregoing, creating a system of payments to individuals, if, with respect to the individual concerned, such benefit system is supported without direct and substantial contributions by him as a wage earner. The term would include benefits made under any law or plan by private insurance carriers.

TITLE VI

Title VI covers the general administrative provisions.

Section 1600 makes applicable to all the titles of the act, except as otherwise provided therein, the administrative, definitive, or penal provisions of Public Law 2, Seventy-third Congress. This integrates the entire act with the system of benefits initiated under and authorized by said Public Law 2, act of March 20, 1933, and the Veterans Regulations issued thereunder as subsequently amended by statutory enactment. Among other things it makes applicable the definition of the term "person who served" as including any person, male or female, commissioned, enlisted, enrolled, or drafted, who served in any of the armed forces of the United States, including the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, or any of the components thereof. Likewise it will make applicable the provisions of section 5, Public

Law 2, concerning the finality of decisions of the Administrator, except as otherwise provided, but it would not carry forfeiture for fraud under title V inasmuch as the penalties for fraud under said title are specifically provided in section 1400.

Section 1601 makes available the appropriations for the Veterans' Administration for expenditures necessary to carry out the provisions of this act except, by construction, as otherwise specifically provided in any of the separate titles of the act; and authorizes the appropriation of any such amount as may be necessary.

Section 1602, as amended, provides that as used in the act, unless the context otherwise requires, the singular includes the plural, the masculine includes the feminine, and the Administrator means the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs.

Section 1603. The purpose of this section is to provide a uniform basic entitlement contingent upon the type of release from the active military or naval service. It provides that in order to be entitled to any veterans' benefits provided by this act or by Public Law 2, Seventy-third Congress, with which this act is integrated, a veteran must have been discharged or released from active service under conditions other than dishonorable. These benefits are generally termed "gratuities" to distinguish them from contractual rights, as in insurance policies. The amendment would remove a discrepancy in existing law which has been found to be highly undesirable, that is, the provision of section 6, Public Law 2, as amended (Public Law 312, 74th Cong., 38 U. S. C. A. 706), relating to hospitalization whereby a veteran not dishonorably discharged may be entitled to hospitalization benefits. In practice it has been found that this permits most unworthy cases to be hospitalized often to the detriment of persons honorably discharged or discharged under conditions other than dishonorable. It is believed that the hospital facilities of the Veterans' Administration should be maintained for veterans whose service was honest and faithful or otherwise meritorious.

Further, the amendment will correct hardships under existing laws requiring honorable discharge as prerequisite to entitlement. Many persons who have served faithfully and even with distinction are released from the service for relatively minor offenses, receiving a so-called blue discharge if in the Army or a similar discharge without honor if in the Navy. It is the opinion of the committee that such discharge should not bar entitlement to benefits otherwise bestowed unless the offense was such, as for example those mentioned in section 300 of the bill, as to constitute dishonorable conditions. A dishonorable discharge is effected only as a sentence of court martial, but in some cases offenders are released or permitted to resign without trial—particularly in the case of desertion without immediate apprehension. In such cases benefits should not be afforded as the conditions are not less serious than those giving occasion to dishonorable discharge by court martial.

The bill, as amended, is printed with the matter to be deleted in black brackets and the additional language printed in italics, as follows:

[S. 1767, 76th Cong., 2d Sess.]

A BILL To provide Federal Government aid for the readjustment in civilian life of returning World War II veterans

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That this Act may be cited as the "Servicemen's Aid Act of 1944"

TITLE I

CHAPTER I—HOSPITALIZATION, CLAIMS, AND PROCEDURES

SEC. 100. The Veterans' Administration is hereby declared to be an [agency of the United States vital and essential to the successful prosecution of the present war, and as such agency the Veterans' Administration shall be] *essential war agency* and entitled, second only to the War and Navy Departments, to priorities in personnel, equipment, supplies, and material under any laws, Executive orders, and regulations pertaining to priorities, and in appointments of personnel from civil-service registers the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs is hereby granted the same authority and discretion as the War and Navy Departments and the United States Public Health Service.

SEC. 101. The Administrator of Veterans' Affairs and the Federal Board of Hospitalization are hereby authorized and directed to expedite and complete the construction of additional hospital facilities for war veterans, and to enter into agreements and contracts for the use of suitable Army and Navy hospitals by the Veterans' Administration after cessation of hostilities and after such institutions are no longer needed by the armed services; and the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs is hereby authorized and directed to establish regional offices, suboffices, branch offices, contact units, or other subordinate offices in centers of population where there is no Veterans' Administration facility, or where such a facility is not readily available or accessible: *Provided*, That there is hereby authorized to be appropriated the sum of \$500,000,000 for the construction of additional hospital facilities.

SEC. 102. The Administrator of Veterans' Affairs and the Secretary of War and Secretary of the Navy are hereby granted authority to enter into agreements and contracts for the mutual use or exchange of use of hospital and domiciliary facilities, and such supplies, equipment, and material as may be needed to operate properly such facilities, except that at no time shall the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs enter into any agreement which will result in a *permanent* reduction of Veterans' Administration hospital and domiciliary beds below the number now established or approved, plus the estimated number required to meet the load of eligibles under laws administered by the Veterans' Administration, or in any way subordinate or transfer the operation of the Veterans' Administration to any other agency of the Government.

Nothing in the Selective Training and Service Act of 1940, as amended, or any other Act, shall be construed to prevent the transfer or detail of any commissioned or enlisted personnel from the armed forces to the Veterans' Administration subject to agreements between the Secretary of War or the Secretary of the Navy and the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs: *Provided*, That no such detail shall be made or extend beyond six months after the termination of the war.

SEC. 103. The Administrator of Veterans' Affairs shall have authority to place officials and employees designated by him in such Army and Navy installations as may be deemed advisable for the purpose of adjudicating disability claims of, and giving aid and advice to, members of the Army and Navy who are about to be discharged or released from active service.

SEC. 104. No person shall be discharged or released from active duty in the armed forces until his certificate of discharge or release from active duty and final pay, or a substantial portion thereof, are ready for delivery to him or to his next of kin or legal representative; and no [wounded, diseased, or handicapped] person shall be discharged or released from active service *on account of disability* until and unless he has executed a claim for compensation, pension, or hospitalization, to be filed with the Veterans' Administration or has signed a statement that he presently does not desire to file such claim: *Provided*, That this section shall not preclude immediate transfer to a veterans' facility for necessary hospital care, *nor preclude the discharge of any person who refuses to sign such claim or statement.*

SEC. 105. No person in the armed forces [suffering from disease or injury] shall be required to sign a statement of any nature relating to the origin, incidence, or aggravation of [such] any disease or injury *he may have*, or any other statement against [the interest of such person] *his own interest*. In the adjudication of any claim against the United States arising out of service in the armed forces, all Government agencies are hereby authorized and directed to disregard and to hold for naught any such statements heretofore signed by any such person.

CHAPTER II—AID BY VETERANS' ORGANIZATIONS

SEC. 200. (a) That upon certification to the Secretary of War or Secretary of the Navy by the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs of accredited representatives of the veterans' organizations specified in section 200 of the Act of June 29, 1936 (Public Law Numbered 844, Seventy-fourth Congress), and other such organizations recognized by the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs thereunder in the presentation of claims under laws administered by the Veterans' Administration, the Secretary of War and Secretary of the Navy are hereby authorized and directed to permit the functioning, in accordance with regulations prescribed pursuant to subsection (b) of this section, of such accredited representatives in military or naval installations on shore from which persons are discharged or released from the active military or naval service: *Provided*, That nothing in this section shall operate to affect measures of military security now in effect or which may hereafter be placed in effect.

(b) The necessary regulations shall be promulgated by the Secretary of War and the Secretary of the Navy [in conjunction] jointly with the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs to accomplish the purpose of this section, and in the preparation of such regulations the national officer of each of such veterans' organizations who is responsible for claims and rehabilitation activities shall be consulted. The commanding officer of each such military or naval installation shall cooperate fully with such authorized representatives in the providing of available space and equipment for such representatives.

CHAPTER III—REVIEWING AUTHORITY

SEC. 300. The discharge or dismissal by reason of the sentence of a court martial of any person from the military or naval forces, or the discharge of any such person on the ground that he was a conscientious objector who refused to perform military duty or refused to wear the uniform or otherwise to comply with lawful orders of competent military authority, or as a deserter, or of an officer by the acceptance of his resignation for the good of the service, shall bar all rights of such person, based upon the period of service from which he is so discharged or dismissed, under any laws administered by the Veterans' Administration: *Provided*, That in the case of any such person, if it be established to the satisfaction of the Administrator that at the time of the commission of the offense such person was insane, he shall not be precluded from benefits to which he is otherwise entitled under the laws administered by the Veterans' Administration: *And provided further*, That [in any case to which this section applies the surrender value, if any, of] this section shall not apply to any Government (converted) or national service life-insurance policy [at the time of forfeiture shall be payable to the insured if living or, if the insured die before such payment, to the designated beneficiary].

SEC. 301. The Secretary of War and the Secretary of the Navy, after conference with the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs, are authorized and directed to establish in the War and Navy Departments, respectively, boards of review composed of five members each, whose duties shall be to review, upon the request of a former officer or enlisted man or woman, the type and nature of his discharge or dismissal, except a discharge or dismissal by reason of the sentence of a court martial, and except, in the case of officers, denial of retirement with pay. Such review shall be based upon all available records of the service department relating to the person requesting such review, and such other evidence as may be presented by such person. Witnesses shall be permitted to present testimony either in person or by affidavit and the person requesting review shall be allowed to appear before such board in person or by counsel: *Provided*, That the term "counsel" as used in this section shall be construed to include, among others, accredited representatives of veterans' organizations recognized by the Veterans' Administration under section 200 of the Act of June 29, 1936 (Public Law Numbered 844, Seventy-fourth Congress). Such board shall have authority to change, correct, or modify any discharge or dismissal, except a discharge or dismissal by reason of the sentence of a court martial, [and except, in the case of officers, denial of retirement with pay,] in accord with the facts presented to the board. The Articles of War and the Articles for the Government of the Navy are hereby amended to authorize the Secretary of War and the Secretary of the Navy to establish such boards of review, the findings thereof to be subject to final approval of the Secretary of War or the Secretary of the Navy, respectively.

TITLE II

CHAPTER IV—EDUCATION OF VETERANS

SEC. 400. Veterans Regulations 1 (a), as amended by Public Law Numbered 16, Seventy-eighth Congress, March 24, 1943, is hereby further amended by adding part VIII, to read as follows:

"PART VIII

"1. That any person who served in the active military or naval service on or after September 16, 1940, and prior to the termination of the present war, and who shall have been discharged or relieved therefrom under [honorable] conditions *other than dishonorable* shall be eligible for education and training under this part: *Provided*, That such person shall have been in active service not less than six months, or shall have been discharged or released from active service by reason of an actual service-incurred injury or disability [; *And provided further*, That the education or training of such person was interrupted or prevented by such service, or such person requires a refresher or retraining course in no event to exceed one year, to fit him for employment or profession].

"2. The President shall appoint in the Veterans' Administration upon the recommendation of the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs a Director of Servicemen's Education and Training who, subject to the direction of the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs, shall administer the provisions of this part. The Administrator shall from time to time promulgate such rules and regulations as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this part; and he may exercise any power or authority conferred on him by this part through the Director and such additional officers and employees as the Administrator may appoint, within appropriations made therefor by the Congress. The Administrator may utilize the services of any legally designated Federal or State educational or vocational agency in the execution of this part subject to agreements with the responsible heads of such agencies.

"3. There is hereby authorized to be established an advisory council to aid and advise the Administrator in the execution of his duties under this part. The council shall consist of the Secretary of War, the Secretary of the Navy, the Secretary of Agriculture, the Federal Security Administrator, the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs who shall be chairman, the United States Commissioner of Education, and [six] eight representatives of the public, to be appointed by the President on the recommendation of the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs, [at least four of whom shall be recognized leaders in the field of education] *who shall be recognized leaders in the fields of education, labor, agriculture, and industry*. The public representatives shall be selected as nearly as practicable on a regional basis. The members of the council shall not receive any compensation for their services on the council, but shall be reimbursed for all necessary travel expenses and members appointed shall receive a per diem allowance of \$15 in lieu of subsistence while away from their respective places of residence on the business of the council.

"4. Persons eligible for education and training under this part shall be entitled to receive education and training at any approved educational or training institution in which they wish to enroll, whether or not it is located in the State in which they reside: *Provided*, That they are accepted as students by such institution in any field or branch of knowledge for which they are found by such institution to be qualified.

"5. Persons eligible under this part shall be entitled to education and training at an approved educational or training institution for a period of one year (or the equivalent thereof in continuous part-time study), or for such lesser time as may be required to complete the course of instruction chosen by them, beginning not later than two years after the date of discharge or release from active duty or two years after the date of termination of the present war, whichever is later: *Provided*, That no education or training under this part shall be afforded beyond [six] seven years after termination of the present war.

"6. [A] *Except as to a refresher or retraining course*, a further period of education or training not exceeding three additional years may be provided for persons who have satisfactorily completed the first year of education or training: *Provided*, That no person shall be eligible for a period of such additional education or training in excess of the total period he served in the active service during the present war, exclusive of (1) the six months' qualifying service and (2) any period of education or training which he may have received under the Army Specialized Training Program or the Navy College Training Program, or as a

cadet at one of the service academies. Such persons shall be selected from those voluntarily applying for such further period of education or training. The further period of education or training shall be continuous instruction on a full-time basis as defined by the institution in which it is obtained. *Subject to the above limitations, any person who has not completed his course of education or training but has satisfactorily completed his first year, shall be eligible and entitled to continue his course of education or training until he has completed the same, provided his work continues satisfactorily throughout the remaining period.* The selection of persons for a further period of education or training under this part shall be made in accordance with rules, standards, and methods established by the Administrator.

"7. The Administrator shall provide for the payment by the United States of such customary tuition, laboratory, library, health, infirmary, and other similar fees and charges, as may be approved by the Administrator, to the educational or training institutions furnishing education or training to persons under this part so long as such persons maintain regular attendance and are in good standing at such institutions, but in no event shall such payment with respect to any person exceed \$500 for an ordinary school year: *Provided*, That such payments shall not include charges for board, lodging, or other living expenses, and no payments shall be made to business or other establishments furnishing apprentice or other training on the job. If any publicly supported institution has no established tuition fee or if the established tuition fee at any publicly supported institution (including the fee for nonresident students) shall be found by the Administrator to be inadequate compensation to such institution for furnishing education or training to persons eligible under this part, he is authorized to provide for the payment with respect to any such person of such compensation as he may find to be fair and reasonable, but not to exceed \$500 for an ordinary school year.

"8. Every person who attends on a full-time basis an approved educational or training institution in accordance with this part shall be entitled to receive a subsistence allowance of \$50 per month while in attendance and in good standing at such institution, including regular holidays and leave not exceeding thirty days in a calendar year, in accordance with regulations issued by the Administrator. A person having a dependent or dependents shall be entitled to receive an additional sum of \$25 per month. Persons attending on a part-time basis and persons receiving compensation for productive labor performed as part of their apprentice or other training on the job at business establishments shall be entitled to receive such lesser sums, if any, as subsistence or dependency allowances as may be determined by the Administrator.

"9. The Administrator may arrange for educational and vocational guidance to the persons eligible for education and training under this part. At such intervals as he deems necessary, he shall make information available respecting the need for general education and for trained personnel in the various trades, crafts, and professions: *Provided*, That facilities of other Federal agencies collecting such information shall be utilized.

"10. The Administrator shall transmit to the Congress annually a report of operations under this part. If the Senate or the House of Representatives is not in session, such reports shall be transmitted to the Secretary of the Senate or the Clerk of the House of Representatives, as the case may be.

"11. The President upon recommendation of the Administrator may request the chief executive of any State to designate the legally constituted State educational agency or agencies, or, if no such State educational agency is available, may request the creation of a special board to act in lieu thereof [(a) for the purpose of advising and assisting in selecting those persons who shall be entitled to receive a further period of education or training as provided for in this part or (b)] for the purpose of furnishing lists of approved educational or training institutions in such State which are found, in accordance with standards established by the Administrator, to be qualified to provide education and training to persons eligible under this part: *Provided*, That in the event the Administrator is of the opinion that any institution should be included in, or excluded from, such lists from any State he shall make recommendations to that effect to the appropriate State agency or special board. Wherever the State educational agency is not representative of all the educational or training institutions eligible for approval in accordance with this part, the President upon the recommendation of the Administrator may request the chief executive of the State to appoint an advisory committee consisting of persons who shall represent the elementary, secondary, and vocational schools, the colleges, junior colleges, professional schools, universities, and other educational institutions, and business and other establishments providing apprentice or other training on the job in the State, to aid and advise the State educational agency in the execution of their functions under this part. Only such educational

or training institutions as are included in such lists and approved by the Administrator shall be deemed approved educational or training institutions within the meaning of this part: *Provided, That wherever there are established State apprenticeship agencies expressly charged by State laws to administer apprentice training, the Administrator shall, whenever possible, utilize such existing facilities and services in training on the job when such training is of one year's duration or more.*

"12. As used in this part, the term 'State' shall include the States of the United States, the Territories and possessions, the District of Columbia, and the Philippine Islands: *Provided, That until the termination of Japanese occupancy of the Philippine Islands and the restoration of orderly processes of government therein, the provisions of this part, to the extent that they require action within the territorial limits of the Philippine Islands, shall not apply; the term 'educational or training institution' shall include public or private elementary, secondary, and other schools furnishing education for adults, business schools and colleges, scientific and technical institutions, colleges, vocational schools, junior colleges, teachers colleges, normal schools, professional schools, and universities, and shall also include business or other establishments providing apprentice or other training on the job under the supervision of an approved college or university, or any State department of education or any State apprenticeship agency or State board of vocational education, or any State apprenticeship council [of] or the Federal Apprentice Training Service established in accordance with Public, Numbered 308, Seventy-fifth Congress, or any agency in the executive branch of the Federal Government authorized under other laws to supervise such training. No business or other establishment providing apprentice or other training on the job to persons eligible for training under this part shall be approved for training under the provisions of this part unless such establishment compensates such persons at rates of pay required by applicable State or Federal laws and which are fair and reasonable for any productive labor performed as part of their training and unless such establishment meets all applicable State and Federal statutes and regulations relating to health, safety, and other conditions of labor.*

"13. Any person eligible for the benefit of this part who is also eligible for the benefit of part VII may elect which benefit he desires: *Provided, That subsistence allowance hereunder shall not, in the event of such election, exceed the amount of additional pension otherwise payable were the training under said part VII. [All payments under the Mustering-Out Payment Act of 1944 received by any person during the time that such person is receiving education or training under the provisions of this part shall be offset by suspension of equal amounts of subsistence allowance, which suspended amounts may be paid after completion of education or training hereunder.]*

"14. No department, agency, or officer of the United States in carrying out the provisions of this part shall exercise any supervision or control over any State educational agency or State apprenticeship agency or any educational or training institution with respect to their personnel, curriculum, or methods or materials of instruction."

SEC. 401. Section 3, Public Law Numbered 16, Seventy-eighth Congress, is hereby amended to read as follows:

"Sec. 3. The appropriation for the Veterans' Administration, 'Salaries and expenses, medical and hospital, and compensation and pensions,' shall be available for necessary expenses under part VII, as amended, or part VIII of Veterans Regulation 1 (a), and there is hereby authorized to be appropriated such additional amount or amounts as may be necessary to accomplish the purposes thereof. Such expenses may include, subject to regulations issued by the Administrator, and in addition to medical care, treatment, hospitalization, and prosthesis, otherwise authorized, such care, treatment, and supplies as may be necessary to accomplish the purposes of part VII, as amended, or part VIII of Veterans Regulation 1 (a)."

SEC. 402. Public Law Numbered 16, Seventy-eighth Congress, is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section 4 to read as follows:

"Sec. 4. Any books or equipment furnished a trainee or student under part VII, as amended, or part VIII of Veterans Regulation 1 (a), shall, unless waived by the Administrator, be returned or the reasonable value thereof accounted for if he, because of fault on his part, fails to complete satisfactorily a course of training or schooling afforded thereunder."

SEC. 403. [Paragraph] *Subsection (f) of section 1, title I, Public, Numbered 2, Seventy-third Congress, and paragraph 1 of part VII of Veterans Regulation Numbered 1 (a), as amended by Public Law 16, Seventy-eighth Congress, March*

24, 1943, [is] are hereby amended by deleting the [date] dates "December 7, 1941" and "December 6, 1941," [in the first sentence thereof,] and substituting the date "September 16, 1940."

TITLE III—LOANS FOR THE PURCHASE OR CONSTRUCTION OF HOMES, FARMS, AND BUSINESS PROPERTY

CHAPTER V—GENERAL PROVISIONS FOR LOANS

SEC. 500. (a) Any person who shall have served in the active military or naval service of the United States at any time after September 16, 1940, and prior to the termination of the present war, and who shall have been discharged or released therefrom under conditions other than dishonorable after active service of ninety days or more, or shall have been discharged or released therefrom after less than ninety days of service for disability incurred in line of duty, shall be deemed to be a veteran eligible for the benefits of this title, except that no person shall be eligible for such benefits by reason of service from which he shall have been discharged or released on his own initiative to accept employment unless he had served outside the continental limits of the United States or in Alaska. Any such veteran may apply to the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs for a loan for any of the purposes specified in sections 501, 502, and 503. If the Administrator finds that the veteran is eligible for the benefits of this title and is in need of such loan, the Administrator shall submit the veteran's application for approval of the loan as provided in sections 501, 502, and 503. When any such loan has been approved as provided in such sections, the loan shall be made by the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs.

(b) The aggregate of all loans made to any one veteran under this title shall be for such amount no in excess of \$1,000 as may be applied for by the veteran. Any such loan shall bear no interest for the first year after the loan is made, and thereafter shall bear interest at the rate of 3 per centum per annum, compounded annually. No guarantor of any such loan shall be required and no security for the loan shall be required except for a lien, which shall be subject only to a lien covering the balance of the purchase price or construction cost and such ground rents as may arise from the purchase of a leasehold estate. No loan to be used in paying a part of the purchase price of any real property or a part of the construction cost of a dwelling to be erected upon unimproved real property owned by the veteran shall be denied or disapproved under this title because another loan is made or to be made to finance any part of the remainder of the purchase price or construction cost of such property, or because a lien upon the property is given or to be given as security for such other loan.

(c) Any loan made under this title shall be repayable to the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs, and, except as otherwise provided in this title, shall be subject to such terms and conditions as may be prescribed jointly by such Administrator and the head of the department or agency to whom the application is submitted for approval of the loan.

PURCHASE OR CONSTRUCTION OF HOMES

SEC. 501. (a) Any application made under this title for a loan to be used in purchasing residential property or in constructing a dwelling on unimproved property owned by the veteran to be occupied as a home by the veteran applicant shall be submitted to an agency designated pursuant to subsection (d) for its approval. Such agency shall approve the loan if it finds—

(1) that such loan will be used for part payment for such property to be purchased or constructed by the veteran;

(2) that the contemplated terms of payment required in any mortgage to be given in part payment of the purchase price or the construction cost bear a proper relation to the veteran's present and anticipated income and expenses; and that the nature and condition of the property is such as to be suitable for dwelling purposes; and

(3) that the purchase price paid [and] or to be paid by the veteran for such property or the construction cost, including the value of the unimproved lot, does not exceed the appraised value thereof as determined by such designated agency.

(b) Any application for a loan under this section for the purpose of *making repairs, alterations, or improvements in, or paying delinquent indebtedness, taxes, or special [assessments, on] assessments on,* residential property previously

purchased [for a home] or owned by the veteran, and used by him as a home, shall be submitted to an agency designated pursuant to subsection [(d)] (d), which shall approve such loan if it finds that such loan will be used for such purpose.

(c) No first mortgage shall be ineligible for insurance under the National Housing Act, as amended, by reason of any loan made under this title, or by reason of any secondary lien upon the property involved securing such loan.

(d) The Administrator of Veterans' Affairs may designate such agency or agencies as he deems appropriate for determining whether or not loans should be approved under this section; and he may designate the agency to which any application shall be submitted for approval under this section, except that if the veteran so requests in his application for the loan the agency designated for such purpose with respect to such loan shall be the Federal Housing Administration.

PURCHASE OF FARMS AND FARM EQUIPMENT

SEC. 502. (a) Any application made under this title for a loan to be used in purchasing any land, buildings, livestock, equipment, machinery, or implements, or in repairing, altering, or improving any buildings, to be used in farming operations conducted by the applicant, shall be submitted to the Secretary of Agriculture for his approval of the loan. Such Secretary shall approve the loan if he finds—

(1) that such loan will be used for part payment for real or personal property purchased or to be purchased by the veteran and used in bona fide farming operations conducted by him;

(2) that such property will be useful in and reasonably necessary for efficiently conducting such operations;

(3) that the ability and experience of the veteran, and the nature of the proposed farming operations to be conducted by him, are such that there is a reasonable likelihood that such operations will be successful; and

(4) that the purchase price paid or to be paid by the veteran for such property does not exceed a reasonable appraised value therefor as determined by the Secretary.

(b) Any person who is found by the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs to be a veteran eligible for the benefits of this title, as provided in section 500 hereof, and who is found by the Secretary of Agriculture, by reason of his ability and experience, to be likely to carry out successfully undertakings required of him under a loan which may be made under the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act, shall be eligible for the benefits of such Act to the same extent as if he were a farm tenant.

PURCHASE OF BUSINESS PROPERTY

SEC. 503. Any application made under this title for a loan to be used in purchasing any business, land, buildings, supplies, equipment, machinery, or tools, to be used by the applicant in pursuing a gainful occupation (other than farming), shall be submitted to the Secretary of Commerce for his approval of the loan. Such Secretary shall approve the loan if he finds—

(1) that such loan will be used for part payment for real or personal property purchased or to be purchased by the veteran and used by him in the bona fide pursuit of a gainful occupation (other than farming);

(2) that such property will be useful in and reasonably necessary for the efficient and successful pursuit of such occupation;

(3) that the ability and experience of the veteran, and the conditions under which he proposes to pursue such occupation, are such that there is a reasonable likelihood that he will be successful in the pursuit of such occupation; and

(4) that the purchase price paid or to be paid by the veteran for such property does not exceed a reasonable appraised value therefor as determined by the Secretary.

TITLE IV

CHAPTER VI—EMPLOYMENT OF VETERANS

SEC. 600. (a) In the enactment of the provisions of this title Congress declares as its intent and purpose that there shall be an effective job-counseling and employment placement service for veterans, and that, to this end, policies shall be promulgated and administered, so as to provide for them the maximum of job opportunity in the field of gainful employment. For the purpose there is hereby created within the United States Employment Service, as established by the

provisions of the Act of June 6, 1933, a Veterans' Placement Service Board, which shall consist of the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs, as Chairman, the Director of the National Selective Service System, and the Administrator of the Federal Security Agency, or whoever may have the responsibility of administering the functions of the United States Employment Service. The members of the Board may be represented by alternates. The Board shall determine all matters of policy relating to the administration of the Veterans' Employment Service of the United States Employment Service.

(b) The Chairman of the Board, through an executive secretary, who shall be the Chief of the Veterans' Employment Service of the United States Employment Service, shall have direct authority and responsibility for carrying out its policies through the veterans' employment representatives in the several States.

(c) The public records of the Veterans' Personnel Division, National Selective Service System, and the Veterans' Employment Service of the United States Employment Service shall be available to the Board.

SEC. 601. The United States Employment Service shall assign to each of the States (the Territories and the District of Columbia) a veterans' employment representative, who shall be a veteran of the wars of the United States and who shall be appointed, subject to the approval of the Board, *in accordance with the civil-service laws, and whose compensation shall be fixed in accordance with the [Civil Service] Classification Act of 1923, as amended.* Each such veterans' employment representative shall be attached to the staff of the public employment service in the State (the Territory or the District of Columbia) to which he has been assigned. He shall be administratively responsible to the Board, through its executive secretary, for the execution of the Board's veterans' placement policies through the public employment service in the State (the Territory or the District of Columbia). In cooperation with the public employment service staff in the State, he shall—

(a) be functionally responsible for the supervision of the registration of veterans in local employment offices for suitable types of employment;

(b) assist in securing and maintaining current information as to the various types of available employment in public works and private industry or business;

(c) promote the interest of employers in employing veterans;

(d) maintain regular contact with employers and veterans' organizations with a view of keeping employers advised of veterans available for employment and veterans advised of opportunities for employment; and

(e) assist in every possible way in improving working conditions and the advancement of employment of veterans.

SEC. 602. Where deemed necessary by the Board, there shall be assigned by the administrative head of the employment service in the State one or more employees of the staffs of local employment service offices, whose services shall be primarily devoted to discharging the duties prescribed to the veterans' employment representative.

SEC. 603. All Federal agencies shall furnish the Board such records, statistics, or information as may be deemed necessary or appropriate in administering provisions of this title, and shall otherwise cooperate with the Board in providing continuous employment opportunities for veterans.

SEC. 604. Failure of the employment service of a State to give preference to qualified registered veterans on job assignments and to cooperate in the execution of the policies of the Board shall be sufficient cause to withhold the funds made available to the State under the Act of June 6, 1933, until such time as the employment service of the State complies with the laws and regulations governing the Board's administration of its veterans' placement functions. *The Federal agency administering the United States Employment Service shall maintain that service as an operating entity and, during the period of its administration, shall effectuate the provisions of this title.*

SEC. 605. (a) The Board through its executive secretary shall estimate the funds necessary for the proper and efficient administration of this title; such estimated sums shall include the annual amounts necessary for salaries, rents, printing and binding, travel, and communications. Sums thus estimated shall be included as a special item in the annual budget of the United States Employment Service. Any funds appropriated pursuant to this special item as contained in the budget of the United States Employment Service shall not be available for any purpose other than that for which they were appropriated, except with the approval of the Board.

(b) The War Manpower Commission shall from its current appropriation allocate and make available sufficient funds to carry out the provisions of this [Act] title during the current fiscal year.

SEC. 606. The term "United States Employment Service" as used in this title means that Bureau created by the provisions of the Act of June 6, 1933, or such successor agencies as from time to time shall perform its functions and duties, as now performed by the War Manpower Commission.

TITLE V

CHAPTER VII—READJUSTMENT ALLOWANCES FOR FORMER MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES WHO ARE UNEMPLOYED

SEC. 700. (a) Any person who shall have served in the active military or naval service of the United States at any time after September 16, 1940, and prior to the termination of the present war, and who shall have been separated from active service under other than dishonorable conditions after the date of enactment of this title or within the fifty-two-week period preceding such date (except that no person shall be eligible for any benefit under this title by reason of any period of service from which he shall have been discharged or released on his own initiative to accept employment unless he had served outside the continental limits of the United States or in Alaska), shall be entitled, in accordance with such regulations as the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs may prescribe, to receive a readjustment allowance as provided herein for each week of unemployment, up to fifty-two weeks, which (1) begins after the effective date of this title, and (2) occurs during the twenty-four-month period after final payment of mustering-out pay: *Provided*, That no such allowance shall be paid for any of the first four consecutive weeks following any payment of mustering-out pay, or for any period for which he receives increased pension under part VII of Veterans Regulation 1 (a) or a subsistence allowance under part VIII of such Regulation: *Provided further*, That no readjustment allowance shall be payable for any week commencing more than five years after the termination of hostilities in the present war.

(b) Such person shall be deemed eligible to receive an allowance for any week of unemployment if claim is made for such allowance and the Administrator finds with respect to such week that—

- (1) the person is residing in the United States at the time of such claim;
- (2) the person is completely unemployed, having performed no service and received no wages, or is partially unemployed in that services have been performed for less than a full workweek and the wages for the week are less than the allowance under this title plus \$3;
- (3) the person is registered with and continues to report to a public employment office, or such other agency as the Administrator may designate, in accordance with regulations of the Administrator;
- (4) the person is able to work and available for suitable work: *Provided*, That no claimant shall be considered ineligible in any period of continuous unemployment for failure to comply with the provisions of this subparagraph if such failure is due to an illness or disability which occurs after the commencement of such period.

CHAPTER VIII—DISQUALIFICATIONS

SEC. 800. (a) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 700, a claimant shall be disqualified from receiving an allowance if—

- (1) he leaves suitable work voluntarily, without good cause, or is suspended or discharged for misconduct in the course of employment;
- (2) he, without good cause, fails to apply for suitable work in accordance with regulations of the Administrator or to accept suitable work when offered him; or
- (3) he, without good cause, does not attend a free training course (not within the purview of part VIII of Veterans Regulation 1 (a)), in accordance with regulations of the Administrator.

(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 700, a claimant shall also be disqualified from receiving an allowance for any week with respect to which it is found that his unemployment is due to a stoppage of work which exists because

of a labor dispute at the factory, establishment, or other premises at which he is or was last employed: *Provided*, That this subsection shall not apply if it is shown that—

(1) he is not participating in or [indirectly] *directly* interested in the labor dispute which causes the stoppage of work; and

(2) he does not belong to a grade or class of workers of which, immediately before the commencement of the stoppage there were members employed at the premises at which the stoppage occurs, any of whom are participating in or directly interested in the dispute: *Provided, however*, That if in any case separate branches of [work] *work*, which are commonly conducted as separate businesses in separate [premises or] *premises*, are conducted in separate departments of the same premises, each such department shall, for the purposes of this subsection, be deemed to be a separate factory, establishment, or other premises.

(c) (1) If a claimant is disqualified under the provisions [of paragraph (1)] of subsection (a) of this section, he shall be disqualified to receive any readjustment allowance for the week in which the cause of his disqualification occurred and for not more than four immediately following weeks. [In addition, the twenty-four-month period within which he might otherwise be eligible to receive readjustment allowances shall be reduced by the number of weeks for which the claimant shall have been disqualified.

[(2) If a claimant is disqualified under the provisions of paragraph (2) or (3) of subsection (a) of this section, he shall be disqualified to receive any readjustment allowance for the week in which the cause of his disqualification occurred and for all subsequent weeks until he has had substantially full-time employment for wages for a period of two weeks, or in the event of any subsequent disqualification the Administrator may prescribe a longer period of such employment, not to exceed four weeks.]

[(3)] (2) In addition to the disqualification prescribed in paragraph (1) above, the Administrator may, in cases of successive disqualifications under the provisions of [paragraph (1) of] subsection (a) of this section, [impose the disqualification provided in paragraph (2) above, when in the estimate of the Administrator such additional disqualification is in furtherance of the purposes of this Act] *extend the period of disqualification for such additional period as the Administrator may prescribe, but not to exceed eight additional weeks in the case of any one disqualification.*

(d) (1) In determining under subsection (a) of this section the suitability of work or the existence of good cause with respect to a claimant, there shall be considered, among other factors, the degree of risk involved to his health, safety, and morals, his physical fitness and prior training, his experience and prior or probable earnings in his customary occupation or one for which he has been trained, the length of his unemployment, his prospects for obtaining work in the customary occupation or one for which he has been trained, the distance of available work from his residence and prospects for obtaining local work. No work shall be deemed unsuitable for an individual solely because the wages are less than his readjustment allowance.

(2) [No] *In determining under subsection (a) of this section the suitability of work, no work shall be deemed suitable for an individual if—*

(A) the position offered is vacant due directly to a strike, lock-out, or other labor dispute; or

(B) the wages, hours, or other conditions of the work offered are substantially less favorable to him than those prevailing for similar work in the locality.

CHAPTER IX—AMOUNT OF ALLOWANCE AND PAYMENT

SEC. 900. (a) The allowance for a week shall be—

(1) \$15, plus

(2) (A) \$5 if the claimant has one dependent, or

(B) \$8 if he has two dependents, or

(C) \$10 if he has three or more dependents,

less that part of the wages payable to him for such week which is in excess of \$3: *Provided*, That where the allowance is not a multiple of \$1, it shall be computed to the next highest multiple of \$1.

(b) The number of weeks of allowances to which each eligible veteran shall be entitled shall be determined as follows: For each calendar month or fraction thereof of active service, the veteran shall be entitled to eight weeks of allowances, but in no event to exceed the maximum provided in section 700.

(c) (1) As used in this section the term "dependent" includes only—

- (A) the lawful wife of a claimant living with him or receiving regular support from him, or the lawful husband of a claimant if dependent upon his wife for support, who, in the week for which an allowance is claimed, has not received \$5 or more either as wages, as an allowance under this title, or under any Federal or State unemployment or disability compensation law; or
- (B) an unmarried child either (1) under eighteen years of age, or (2) of any age, if incapable of self-support by reason of mental or physical defect.

(2) As used in this section the term "child" shall include only—

- (A) a legitimate child;
- (B) a child legally adopted;
- (C) a stepchild, if a member of the claimant's household; or
- (D) a child to whom the claimant stands in loco parentis and has so stood for not less than twelve months prior to the date of this claim on behalf of such child.

(d) The Administrator may find an individual to be a dependent of the claimant if the claimant has certified the facts required by the provisions of this subsection.

(e) Where a child is a dependent of more than one claimant, allowance for the child shall be made only on behalf of one claimant, as determined by the Administrator.

(f) Where a claimant seeks an allowance for a dependent who is separated from him under court order or written agreement, the allowance for the dependent shall not exceed the amount fixed in the court order or in the written agreement. If such amount is not fixed at a weekly rate, the portion payable for each week shall be determined in accordance with regulations of the Administrator.

SEC. 901. (a) Readjustment allowances shall be paid at reasonable intervals prescribed by the Administrator.

(b) Any allowances remaining unpaid upon the death of a claimant shall not be considered a part of the assets of the estate of the claimant, or liable for the payment of his debts, or subject to any administration of his estate, and the Administrator may make payment thereof to such person or persons he finds most equitably entitled thereto.

CHAPTER X--ADJUSTMENT OF DUPLICATE BENEFITS

SEC. 1000. Where an allowance is payable to a claimant for a week under this title and where, for the same week, either an allowance or benefit is received under any Federal or State unemployment or disability compensation law, or a Federal or State noncontributory benefit is received, the amount received or accrued from such other source shall be subtracted from the allowance payable under this title (except that this section shall not apply to pension, compensation, or retired pay paid by the Veterans' Administration); and the resulting allowances, if not a multiple of \$1, shall be readjusted to the next higher multiple of \$1.

CHAPTER XI--ADMINISTRATION

SEC. 1100. (a) The Administrator of Veterans' Affairs is authorized to administer this title and shall, insofar as possible, utilize existing facilities and services of Federal and State departments or agencies on the basis of mutual agreements with such departments or agencies. Such agreements shall provide for the filing of claims for readjustment allowances with the Administrator through established public employment offices and State unemployment compensation agencies. Such agencies, through agreement, shall also be utilized in the processing, adjustment, and determination of such claims and the payment of such allowances. To facilitate the carrying out of agreements with State departments or agencies and to assist in the discharge of the Administrator's duties under this title, a representative of the Administrator shall be located in each participating State department or agency.

(b) The Administrator shall prescribe such rules and regulations and require such records and reports as he may find necessary to carry out the purposes of this title: *Provided, however,* That prior to the adoption of any rules and regulations relating to the performances of Federal or State departments or agencies with

which agreements have been made, the Administrator shall consult and advise with representatives of such departments or agencies as to the provisions of such rules and regulations.

(c) The Administrator may delegate to any officer or employee of his own or of any other department or agency of the Federal Government or of any State such of his powers and duties, except that of prescribing rules and regulations, as the Administrator may consider necessary to carry out the purposes of this title. The Administrator may require any such officer or employee to give a surety bond to the United States in such amount as the Administrator may deem necessary and the cost of such bond shall be paid out of sums appropriated for the administration of this title.

(d) Allowances shall be paid upon certification by the Administrator. The Secretary of the Treasury, through the Division of Disbursement of the Treasury, and prior to audit and settlement by the General Accounting Office, shall pay, at the time or times fixed by the Administrator, to the departments, agencies, or individuals designated, the amounts so certified.

(e) The Administrator shall from time to time certify to the Secretary of the Treasury for payment in advance or otherwise such sums as he estimates to be necessary to compensate any Federal department or agency for its administrative expenses under this title. Such sums shall cover periods of no longer than six months.

The Administrator shall also from time to time certify to the Social Security Board such State departments or agencies as may be participating in the administration of this title. Upon such certification the Social Security Board shall, in addition to the amounts certified under the provisions of section 302 (a) of the Social Security Act, as amended, certify to the Secretary of the Treasury for payment to each State such amounts as the Board determines to be necessary for the administrative expense of such State under this title.

(f) Any money paid to any cooperating agency, person, or institution which is not used for the purpose for which it was paid shall, upon termination of the agreement with such agency, person, or institution, be returned to the Treasury and credited to the current appropriation for carrying out the purpose of this title, or, if returned after the expiration of this title, shall be covered into the Treasury as miscellaneous receipts.

SEC. 1101. (a) No person designated by the Administrator as a certifying officer shall, in the absence of gross negligence, or intent to defraud the United States, be liable with respect to the payment of any allowance certified by him under this title.

(b) No disbursing officer shall, in the absence of gross negligence, or intent to defraud the United States, be liable with respect to any payment by him under this title if it was based upon a voucher signed by a certifying officer designated by the Administrator.

SEC. 1102. Any claimant whose claim for an allowance has been denied shall be entitled to a fair hearing before an impartial tribunal of the State agency or such other agency as may be designated by the Administrator. The representative of the Administrator [located in each State participating in the administration of this title] shall be the final [appellate] authority in regard to contested [claims arising in such State. The decision of the representative shall be subject to review by] claims, subject to appeal to the Administrator.

CHAPTER XII—DECISIONS AND PROCEDURES

SEC. 1200. The authority to issue subpoenas and provisions for invoking aid of the courts of the United States in case of disobedience thereto, to make investigations, and to administer oaths, as contained in title III of the Act of June 29, 1936 (49 Statute 2033-34; U. S. C., title 38, secs. 131-133), shall be applicable in the administration of this title.

CHAPTER XIII—REQUIREMENT OF REPORTING

SEC. 1300. Any claimant shall report the occurrence of any event which makes him ineligible for or reduces his allowance. Any claimant who fails to report any such event of which he has knowledge and who accepts an allowance to which he is not entitled because of such event shall be ineligible to receive any allowance for four weeks of unemployment thereafter.

CHAPTER XIV—PENALTIES

SEC. 1400. (a) Whoever, for the purpose of causing an increase in any allowance authorized under this title, or for the purpose of causing any allowance to be paid where none is authorized under this title, shall make or cause to be made any false statement or representation as to any wages paid or received, or whoever makes or causes to be made any false statement of a material fact in any claim for any allowance under this title, or whoever makes or causes to be made any false statement, representation, affidavit, or document in connection with such claim, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof shall be fined not more than \$1,000 or imprisoned for not more than one year, or both.

(b) Whoever shall obtain or receive any money, check, or allowance under this title, without being entitled thereto and with intent to defraud the United States, shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$1,000 or by imprisonment for not more than one year, or both.

CHAPTER XV—DEFINITIONS

SEC. 1500. As used in this title—

(a) The term "week" means such period or periods of seven consecutive calendar days as may be prescribed in regulations by the Administrator.

(b) The term "United States" used geographically means the several States, the District of Columbia, Alaska, Hawaii, and Puerto Rico.

(c) The term "State" includes the District of Columbia, Alaska, Hawaii, and Puerto Rico.

(d) The term "wages" means all remuneration for services from whatever sources, including commissions and bonuses and the cash value of all remuneration in any medium other than cash.

(e) The term "noncontributory benefit" means a cash benefit, allowance, annuity, or compensation (including payments under any workmen's compensation law) payable by reason of the past employment or services of any individual, under any law or plan of the United States, any State, Territory, or possession, or the District of Columbia, or any political subdivision or instrumentality of any of the foregoing, creating a system of such payments to individuals (including payments made under any such law or plan by private insurance carriers), if with respect to such individual the benefit system is supported without direct and substantial contributions by wage earners.

TITLE VI

CHAPTER XVI—GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE AND PENAL PROVISIONS

SEC. 1600. Except as otherwise provided in this Act, the administrative, definitive, and penal provisions under Public, Numbered 2, Seventy-third Congress, shall be for application under this Act.

SEC. 1601. The appropriations for the Veterans' Administration are hereby made available for expenditures necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act and there is hereby authorized to be appropriated such additional amounts as may be necessary to accomplish the purposes of this Act.

SEC. 1602. Wherever used in this Act, *unless the context otherwise requires*, the singular includes the plural and the masculine includes the feminine, and the term "Administrator" means the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs.

SEC. 1603. A discharge or release from active service under conditions other than dishonorable shall be a prerequisite to entitlement to veterans' benefits provided by this Act or Public Law Numbered 2, Seventy-third Congress, as amended.

