

VETERANS' ADJUSTED COMPENSATION

MAY 1, 1924.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. GREEN of Iowa, from the committee of conference, submitted the following

CONFERENCE REPORT

[To accompany H. R. 7959]

The committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendments of the Senate to the bill (H. R. 7959) to provide adjusted compensation for the veterans of the World War, and for other purposes, having met, after full and free conference have agreed to recommend and do recommend to their respective Houses as follows:

That the Senate recede from its amendments numbered 2, 4, 7, 21, 34, 35, 36, 47, and 48.

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendments of the Senate numbered 3, 5, 6, 8, 9, 9½, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 22, 23, 24, 25, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 49, 51, 52, 53, 57, 58, 59, 60, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 73, and 74, and agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 1:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 1, and agree to the same with an amendment as follows:

Omit the matter proposed to be inserted by said amendment and on page 4, line 24, of the House bill strike out "or", and on page 5, line 9, strike out the period, insert a semicolon and the word *or*; and on page 5, after line 9, insert the following paragraph:

(i) *Any individual who was discharged or otherwise released from the draft—for the period of service terminating with such discharge or release and a period.*

And the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 26:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 26, and agree to the same with an amendment as follows:

In lieu of the matter proposed to be inserted by said amendment insert the following: *March 1, 1925* and a comma; and the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 50:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 50, and agree to the same with an amendment which, in addition to the language stricken out by the Senate amendment, strikes out on page 17, line 13, of the House bill the following: "either (1)"; and the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 54:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 54, and agree to the same with an amendment as follows:

In lieu of the matter proposed to be inserted by said amendment insert the following: (*as soon as practicable after receipt of an application in accordance with the provisions of section 604, but not before March 1, 1925*); and the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 55:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 55, and agree to the same with an amendment which restores the language of the House bill except the words "upon him for support" appearing on page 21, in lines 4 and 5 of the House bill; and the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 56:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 56, and agree to the same with an amendment as follows:

In lieu of the matter proposed to be inserted by said amendment insert the following: (2) *The widow or widower shall be presumed to have been dependent upon the veteran upon showing by them, respectively, the marital cohabitation; the father and mother, respectively, shall submit under oath a statement of the dependency, to be filed with the application and a period; and the Senate agree to the same.*

Amendment numbered 61:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 61, and agree to the same with an amendment as follows:

On page 7 of the Senate engrossed amendments, line 8, after "veteran" insert *on or*; and the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 62:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 62, and agree to the same with an amendment as follows:

On page 8 of the Senate engrossed amendments, line 4, strike out the period, insert a comma and the following: *together with the facts of record in the department upon which such above conclusions are based* and a period; and the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 72:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 72, and agree to the same with an amendment as follows:

In lieu of the matter proposed to be inserted by said amendment insert the following: *For the administration of the provisions of this Act, the President may except from the operation of section 4c of the Act entitled "An Act for making further and more effectual provision for the national defense, and for other purposes," approved June 3, 1916, as amended, or of any Act amendatory thereof or supplemental thereto, not more than seven officers of the Army and a period; and the Senate agree to the same.*

W. R. GREEN,
W. C. HAWLEY,
ALLEN T. TREADWAY,
JNO. N. GARNER,

Managers on the part of the House.

CHARLES CURTIS,
JAMES E. WATSON,
GEO. P. MCLEAN,
F. M. SIMMONS,
DAVID I. WALSH,

Managers on the part of the Senate.

STATEMENT OF THE MANAGERS ON THE PART OF THE HOUSE

The managers on the part of the House at the conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendments of the Senate to the bill (H. R. 7959) to provide adjusted compensation for the veterans of the World War, and for other purposes, submit the following written statement in explanation of the effect of the action agreed upon by the conferees and recommended in the accompanying conference report:

The following amendments are clerical changes, and the House recedes: 9½, 11, 13, 18, 27, 29, 32, 40, 58, 67, 68, 69.

Amendment No. 1: This amendment excludes from the term "veteran" any individual who was discharged or otherwise released from the draft. The House bill contained no such provision; and the House recedes with a clarifying amendment and inserts the amendment at the proper place in the bill.

Amendment No. 2: This amendment provides that in the case of a member of the Porto Rico Regiment of Infantry, service in the Panama Canal Zone shall be considered as oversea service. The House bill contained no provision upon this subject; and the Senate recedes.

Amendments Nos. 3, 4, 5, and 6: The House bill provided that in computing the adjusted service credit no allowance shall be made to a cadet of the Coast Guard, a Philippine Scout, a member of the Porto Rico Regiment of Infantry, and a female yeoman of the Navy or the Marine Corps, respectively. Amendment No. 3 extends the House provisions to a cadet engineer of the Coast Guard; amendments Nos. 4, 5, and 6 strike out the House provisions in the case of a Philippine Scout, a member of the Porto Rico Regiment of Infantry, and a female yeoman of the Navy or Marine Corps, respectively. The House recedes on amendments Nos. 3, 5, and 6, and the Senate recedes on amendment No. 4. The result of this action is to give the benefits of the act to members of the Porto Rico Regiment of Infantry and female yeoman, and to exclude cadet engineers of the Coast Guard and Philippine Scouts.

Amendment No. 7: The House bill provided that in computing the adjusted service credit no allowance shall be made to any member of the Public Health Service for any period during which he was not detailed for duty with the Army and Navy. The Senate amendment excluded any member of the Public Health Service, irrespective of whether he was detailed for duty with the Army or Navy; and the Senate recedes.

Amendment No. 8: This amendment is a change in a subheading; and the House recedes.

Amendment No. 9: This amendment strikes out surplus language of the House bill and inserts "(hereinafter referred to as the 'Director')" where the first reference is made to the Director of the United States Veterans' Bureau; and the House recedes.

Amendment No. 10: This amendment strikes out surplus language; and the House recedes.

Amendment No. 12: This amendment requires the Secretary of War or the Secretary of the Navy to transmit the facts of record in his department upon which his conclusions in respect of the application of a veteran are based. The House bill contained no such provision; and the House recedes.

Amendments Nos. 14, 15, 16, 17, and 19: The House bill provided three agencies, namely, the Secretary of War, the Secretary of the Navy, and the Director of the United States Veterans' Bureau, to administer the act and pay the benefits provided in the bill. The Senate amendments to the bill make the Director of the United States Veterans' Bureau the agency through whom the benefits are to be paid, and confine as far as possible the general administration of the act to the director. The foregoing amendments relating to publicity are necessary in carrying out this policy; and the House recedes.

Amendment No. 20: The House bill provided for publicity to inform veterans of their rights under the act. The Senate amendment extends this publicity to dependents; and the House recedes.

Amendment No. 21: The House bill provided that the findings of the Secretary of War and the Secretary of the Navy as to the number of days of service in the military and naval forces of the veteran shall not be subject to review by the General Accounting Office. The Senate amendment strikes this provision from the bill; and the Senate recedes.

Amendments Nos. 22, 25, 28, 30, 31, 59, 60, 64, and 65: These amendments conform with the action of the conferees as explained in amendment No. 14; and the House recedes.

Amendments Nos. 23 and 66: The House bill exempted from attachment and taxation sums payable to veterans and to dependents of veterans under sections 308 and 607, respectively. The Senate amendments combine these provisions; and the House recedes.

Amendments Nos. 24 and 63: The House bill provided penalties for the collection of unlawful fees from veterans under sections 309 and similar penalties in the case of dependents under section 605. The Senate amendments combine these provisions; and the House recedes.

Amendment No. 26: The House bill provided that payment in the case of those entitled to cash should be made as soon as practicable, but not before the expiration of nine months after the enactment of the act. The Senate amendment makes July 1, 1925, the date upon which such payments should begin; and the House recedes with an amendment changing the date to March 1, 1925.

Amendment No. 33: This amendment eliminates fractional parts of a dollar from the face value of the adjusted service certificate; and the House recedes.

Amendments Nos. 34, 35, and 36: The House bill provided that the adjusted service certificates shall be dated on the first day of the month in which the application is filed, but in no case before January 1, 1925. The Senate amendments made the date July 1, 1925; and the Senate recedes on these amendments.

Amendments Nos. 37 and 41: The House bill provided that the rate of interest charged upon a loan by the bank shall not exceed

by more than 2 per cent the rate charged at the date of the loan for the discount of commercial paper, under section 13 of the Federal reserve act by the Federal reserve bank for the Federal reserve district in which the bank is located. The Senate amendment for the purpose of definiteness provides that the rate for 90-day commercial paper is the one to be followed in reckoning the interest rate; and the House recedes on both amendments.

Amendment No. 38: The House bill provided that upon the indorsement of any bank and subject to regulations to be prescribed by the Federal Reserve Board, any such note secured by a certificate and held by a bank shall be eligible for discount or rediscount by the Federal reserve bank for the Federal reserve district in which the bank is located. The Senate amendment provides that the indorsement shall be deemed a waiver of demand, notice, and protest by such bank as to its own indorsement exclusively; and the House recedes.

Amendment No. 39: This amendment makes a clerical change for purposes of clarity; and the House recedes.

Amendment No. 42: The House bill provided that any such note secured by a certificate may be offered as collateral security for the issuance of Federal reserve notes under the provisions of section 16 of the Federal reserve act. The Senate amendment strikes out this provision; and the House recedes.

Amendment No. 43: The House bill authorized the Federal Reserve Board to permit a Federal reserve bank to rediscount, for any other Federal reserve bank, notes secured by a certificate. The Senate amendment broadens this provision so as to require member banks to rediscount the notes on the affirmative vote of at least five members of the Federal Reserve Board; and the House recedes.

Amendments Nos. 44, 45, and 46: These amendments are clerical changes for the purpose of clarity; and the House recedes.

Amendments Nos. 47 and 48: Subdivision (c) of section 502 of the House bill provided that the notes of the veteran during the time they are held by the director shall pay interest at the rate of 6 per cent compounded annually, in order to insure the redemption of the notes upon maturity. Subdivision (d) made provision for the redemption of the notes in the event of the death or failure of the veteran to redeem same before the certificate matures; applying the same rule in respect of interest. The Senate amendments strike out the compound interest requirement; and the Senate recedes on both amendments.

Amendment No. 49: This amendment is a clerical change for the purpose of clarity; and the House recedes.

Amendment No. 50: The House bill provided that the loan basis of any certificate shall be an amount which is not in excess of either (1) 90 per cent of the reserve value of the certificate on the last day of the current certificate year or (2) 60 per cent of the face value of the certificate. The Senate amendment strikes out the 60 per cent limitation; and the House recedes with an amendment making a clerical change.

Amendment No. 51: This amendment is a clerical change for the purpose of clarity; and the House recedes.

Amendment No. 52: This amendment inserts a subheading; and the House recedes.

Amendment No. 53: The House bill provided that if the United States has not made, or is not obligated to make, any payments to any person on account of the death of a veteran (either as compensation under the war risk insurance act or as insurance under such act), the dependents of the veteran should be entitled to the benefits of the bill. The Senate amendment removes this limitation; and the House recedes.

Amendment No. 54: The House bill provided for the payment of the adjusted service credit to the dependent of a veteran in the event of his death in an order or preference named in the bill without stating the time for payment. The Senate amendment provides that payment shall be made as soon as practicable after receipt of an application, but not before the expiration of nine months after the enactment of this act; and the House recedes with an amendment providing that payment shall not be made before March 1, 1925.

Amendment No. 55: The House bill provided that no payment shall be made to any individual under Title VI unless at the time of the death of the veteran such individual was dependent upon him for support. The Senate amendment struck out this provision; and the House recedes with an amendment reinstating the language of the House bill with the exception of the words "upon him for support."

Amendment No. 26: The House bill provided that the widow, widower, father, or mother of the veteran shall be presumed to have been dependent upon him at the time of his death upon filing an affidavit to that effect with the application. The Senate amendment presumed dependency in the case of a widow or widower upon showing marital cohabitation, and required the father or mother to submit a statement under oath of the facts of the dependency, together with the affidavit of one or more disinterested persons having knowledge thereof. The House recedes with an amendment which presumes the father or mother to be dependent upon submitting a statement under oath with the application.

Amendment No. 57: This amendment inserts a subheading; and the House recedes.

Amendment No. 61: The House bill provided that an application by the dependent shall be made on or before January 1, 1928, and if not made on or before such date shall be held void. The Senate amendment broadens this provision so as to allow the dependent six months to file application after the death of the veteran if he had failed to make application six months prior to the date fixed; and the House recedes with an amendment making a clerical change.

Amendment No. 62: The House bill provided for the transmittal of the application from the Secretary of War or the Secretary of the Navy to the director in the case of a veteran, but made no such provision in the case of a dependent. The Senate amendment inserts a new section to take care of the dependent; and the House recedes with an amendment adding additional language to make the provisions uniform in each case.

Amendments Nos. 70 and 71: The House bill provided that with the exception of such special experts as may be found necessary for the conduct of the work, the appointments made under this act shall be subject to the civil service laws, but for the purposes of carrying out the provisions of section 305, such appointments may be made without regard to such laws until the services of persons duly qualified

under such laws are available. The Senate amendments confine the appointments to those entitled under the civil service laws; and the House recedes.

Amendment No. 72: The Senate amendment provides that the Senate may except not more than seven officers of the Army from the provisions of the national defense act, as amended, with reference to detail with troops for the purpose of carrying out the administrative provisions of this act; and the House recedes with an amendment making a clerical change.

Amendments 73 and 74: These amendments strike out surplus language; and the House recedes.

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Managers on the part of the House.

