

[CHAPTER 72]

AN ACT

To provide for the appointment of an additional Assistant Secretary of the Interior.

February 29, 1944  
[S. 1140]  
[Public Law 241]

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That there shall be in the Department of the Interior an additional Assistant Secretary of the Interior, who shall be appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, and who shall perform such duties in the Department of the Interior as shall be prescribed by the Secretary, or may be required by law. The Assistant Secretaries of the Interior shall be without numerical distinction of rank and shall have salaries of \$9,000 per annum. The additional office provided for by this Act shall cease to exist at the expiration of six months after the cessation of hostilities in the present war as determined by the President by proclamation or by the Congress by concurrent resolution.

Approved February 29, 1944.

Department of the Interior.  
Appointment of additional Assistant Secretary.

Expiration of office.

[CHAPTER 73]

AN ACT

To liberalize the service pension laws relating to veterans of the War with Spain, the Philippine Insurrection, and the China Relief Expedition, and their dependents.

March 1, 1944  
[H. R. 2350]  
[Public Law 242]

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That effective the first day of the month following the date of enactment of this Act the \$60 monthly rate of pension payable for total disability to veterans of the War with Spain, the Philippine Insurrection, or the China Relief Expedition under section 1 of the Act of June 2, 1930 (46 Stat. 492; U. S. C., title 38, sec. 365), and the \$60 monthly rate of pension payable to such veterans upon reaching the age of sixty-five years under the provisions of section 1 of the Act of May 24, 1938 (52 Stat. 440; U. S. C., title 38, sec. 370), are hereby increased to \$75.

Pensions to veterans of certain wars.  
Increase in rates.

SEC. 2. Section 2 of the Act of May 1, 1926 (44 Stat. 382; U. S. C., title 38, sec. 364a), wherein for pension purposes, as to the widow of any deceased veteran of the War with Spain, the Philippine Insurrection, or the China Relief Expedition, the marriage date is defined as September 1, 1922, is hereby amended, effective the first day of the month following the date of enactment of this Act, by striking out the date "September 1, 1922" and inserting in lieu thereof the date "January 1, 1938".

Marriage date limitation.

SEC. 3. The Act of May 1, 1926 (44 Stat. 382-384; U. S. C., title 38, secs. 364-364f), is hereby amended, effective the first day of the month following the date of enactment of this Act, by adding a new section thereto numbered eight, to read as follows:

38 U. S. C., Supp. III, § 364b.

"SEC. 8. The \$30 monthly pension payable to widows and former widows under the provisions of section 2 of this Act, as amended, shall be increased to \$40 per month when the age of sixty-five years is attained, and the widow or former widow who was the wife of the soldier, sailor, or marine during the period of his service, as defined in section 2 of this Act, shall be paid a pension at the rate of \$50 per month."

Widows of veterans.  
44 Stat. 382.  
38 U. S. C. § 364a.  
*Supra.*

SEC. 4. The Act of May 1, 1926 (44 Stat. 382-384; U. S. C., title 38, secs. 364-364f), is hereby amended by adding a new section thereto numbered nine, to read as follows:

38 U. S. C., Supp. III, § 364b.

"SEC. 9. No pension or increase in pension shall hereafter be allowed to the widow of a veteran of the War with Spain, the Philippine Insurrection, or the China Relief Expedition, under any law, unless there

Prerequisite.