

Amendments involving new obligations.

Ante, p. 127.

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Task of rehabilitation.

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the benefits to be made available through the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration.

SEC. 5. No amendment under article VIII (a) of the agreement involving any new obligation for the United States shall be binding upon the United States without approval by joint resolution of Congress.

SEC. 6. In adopting this joint resolution the Congress does so with the following reservation:

That in the case of the United States the appropriate constitutional body to determine the amount and character and time of the contributions of the United States is the Congress of the United States.

SEC. 7. In adopting this joint resolution the Congress does so with the following reservation:

That it is understood that the provision in paragraph 11 of resolution numbered 12 adopted at the first session of the council, referred to in section 3 of this joint resolution and reading "The task of rehabilitation must not be considered as the beginning of reconstruction—it is coterminous with relief", contemplates that rehabilitation means and is confined only to such activities as are necessary to relief.

SEC. 8. In adopting this joint resolution the Congress does so with the following reservation:

That the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration shall not be authorized to enter into contracts or undertake or incur obligations beyond the limits of appropriations made under this authorization and by other countries and receipts from other sources.

SEC. 9. The authorization contained in this joint resolution shall expire on June 30, 1946.

Approved March 28, 1944.

[CHAPTER 140]

AN ACT

To amend section 4 of the Act approved June 13, 1940.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section 4 of the Act approved June 13, 1940 (54 Stat. 381), is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 4. That hereafter brigadier generals of the line shall be appointed from among officers of the line commissioned in grades not below that of lieutenant colonel who are credited with twenty-eight years' continuous commissioned service in the Regular Army as hereinbefore provided and whose names are borne on an eligible list prepared annually by a board of not less than five general officers of the line, not below the grade of major general: *Provided, however*, That not more than 25 per centum of the total authorized number of brigadier generals of the line may be appointed, without regard to length of service, from among officers of the line commissioned in grades not below that of lieutenant colonel and whose names are borne on such eligible list. Hereafter appointment as chief of any branch shall be made from among officers commissioned in grades not below that of lieutenant colonel who are credited with twenty-eight years' continuous commissioned service in the Regular Army as hereinbefore provided, and who have demonstrated by actual and extended service in such branch or on similar duty that they are qualified for such appointment."

Approved March 29, 1944.

March 29, 1944
[S. 1410]
[Public Law 268]

Army.
10 U. S. C. § 551a.

Brigadier generals of the line, appointment.

Chiefs of branches.

[CHAPTER 141]

AN ACT

To amend the provision of the Act authorizing payment of six months' death gratuity to widow, child, or dependent relative of officers, enlisted men, or nurses of the Navy or Marine Corps, and for other purposes.

March 29, 1944

[S. 1428]

[Public Law 269]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the provision contained in the Act approved June 4, 1920 (41 Stat. 824), as amended (45 Stat. 710; 56 Stat. 146; 34 U. S. C., Supp. 943), is hereby further amended to read as follows: "Immediately upon official notification of the death from wounds or disease, not the result of his or her own misconduct, of any officer, enlisted man, or nurse on the active list of the Regular Navy or Regular Marine Corps, or on the retired list when on active duty, the Paymaster General of the Navy shall cause to be paid to the widow, and if there be no widow, to the child or children, and if there be no widow or child, to any other dependent relative of such officer, enlisted man, or nurse previously designated by him or her, an amount equal to six months' pay at the rate received by such officer, enlisted man, or nurse at the date of his or her death. The Secretary of the Navy shall establish regulations requiring each officer and enlisted man or nurse having no wife or child to designate the proper dependent relative to whom this amount shall be paid in case of his or her death. Said amount shall be paid from funds appropriated for the pay of the Navy and pay of the Marine Corps, respectively: *Provided*, That if there be no widow, child, or previously designated dependent relative, the Secretary of the Navy shall cause the amount herein provided to be paid to any grandchild, parent, brother or sister, or grandparent shown to have been dependent upon such officer, enlisted man, or nurse prior to his or her death, and the determination of such fact by the Secretary of the Navy shall be final and conclusive upon the accounting officers of the Government: *Provided further*, That nothing in this section or in other existing legislation shall be construed as making the provisions of this section applicable to officers, enlisted men, or nurses of any forces of the Navy of the United States other than those of the Regular Navy and Marine Corps, and nothing in this section shall be construed to apply in commissioned grades to any officers except those holding permanent or probationary appointments in the Regular Navy or Marine Corps: *Provided further*, That the provisions of this section shall apply to the officers and enlisted men of the Coast Guard, and the Secretary of the Treasury will cause payment to be made accordingly: *And provided further*, That in the event of the death of any beneficiary before payment to and collection by such beneficiary of the amount authorized herein, such amount shall be paid to the next living beneficiary in the order of succession above stated."

SEC. 2. Nothing contained in section 1 of this Act shall be construed to invalidate or in any manner affect any payments of the six months' death gratuity made prior to the date of approval of this Act, but no payment of such gratuity shall hereafter be made to the representative of the estate of a beneficiary who died prior to such approval.

SEC. 3. The Act approved March 17, 1941, entitled "An Act extending the provisions of the Act approved August 27, 1940, entitled 'An Act increasing the number of naval aviators in the line of the Regular Navy and Marine Corps, and for other purposes'" (55 Stat. 43; 34 U. S. C., Supp. 855c-2), is hereby amended by inserting before the

Navy or Marine Corps.

Death gratuity to widow, child, or dependent relative.

Designation of dependent relative as beneficiary.

Funds available.

Determination of payee if beneficiary not designated.

Applicability.

Coast Guard.

Death of beneficiary before payment.

Prior payments not invalidated.

Payments to estates, restriction.

Naval Reserve and Marine Corps Reserve.