

[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.

Coast and Geodetic Survey.

period at the end of section 1 thereof the following words: "or as hereafter amended".

SEC. 4. The Act approved January 19, 1942, entitled "An Act to regulate the distribution and promotion of commissioned officers of the Coast and Geodetic Survey, and for other purposes" (56 Stat. 6; 33 U. S. C., Supp. 870), is hereby amended by inserting after the words "Marine Corps" in the sixth line of section 9 thereof, the words "or as hereafter amended".

Approved March 29, 1944.

[CHAPTER 142]

AN ACT

March 29, 1944
[S. 1635]
[Public Law 270]

To eliminate a pay discrimination against the teacher of music at the United States Military Academy.

U. S. Military Academy.
Teacher of music.

10 U. S. C. § 1086.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Act entitled "An Act to make better provision for the teacher of music, the leader of the Military Academy Band", approved May 27, 1940 (54 Stat. 223), is amended by striking out the words "third pay period", wherever they occur in such Act, and inserting in lieu thereof the words "grade of captain".

Approved March 29, 1944.

[CHAPTER 143]

AN ACT

March 29, 1944
[H. R. 324]
[Public Law 271]

To place postmasters at fourth-class post offices on an annual-salary basis, and fix their rate of pay; and provide allowances for rent, fuel, light, and equipment, and fix the rates thereof.

Postal Service.
Postmasters of the fourth class.

Compensation.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That postmasters of the fourth class shall embrace all those at offices where the gross postal receipts are less than \$1,500 per annum.

SEC. 2. The compensation of postmasters of the fourth class shall be annual salaries, graded in even dollars, and payable in semi-monthly payments, to be ascertained and fixed by the Postmaster General from their respective quarterly returns to the General Accounting Office, or copies or duplicates thereof to the First Assistant Postmaster General, for the calendar year immediately preceding the adjustment, based on gross postal receipts at the following rates, namely:

Less than \$50.....	\$72
\$50 but less than \$100.....	144
\$100 but less than \$150.....	216
\$150 but less than \$200.....	288
\$200 but less than \$250.....	360
\$250 but less than \$300.....	432
\$300 but less than \$350.....	492
\$350 but less than \$400.....	532
\$400 but less than \$450.....	572
\$450 but less than \$500.....	596
\$500 but less than \$600.....	672
\$600 but less than \$700.....	748
\$700 but less than \$800.....	824
\$800 but less than \$900.....	892
\$900 but less than \$1,000.....	960
\$1,000 but less than \$1,100.....	1,028
\$1,100 but less than \$1,500.....	1,100

Seasonal offices.

Provided, That at seasonal offices of the fourth class, the Postmaster General may authorize the payment of the fixed annual salary