

RECOMMENDATIONS OF VETERANS' ORGANIZATIONS, 1968 3551

Whereas, the failure of disability compensation rates to keep abreast with the cost of living has resulted in a decrease in the living standards of seriously disabled veterans who must depend upon their compensation to offset the effects of lost earning power,

Now, therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled at Denver, Colorado, July 31 through August 4, 1967, shall support cost-of-living increases in the compensation rates for service connected disabilities.

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(RESOLUTION No. 54, LEGISLATIVE)

TO PROVIDE SERVICE CONNECTED DEATH BENEFITS FOR VETERANS RATED TOTALLY
DISABLED FOR A PERIOD OF 20 OR MORE YEARS

Whereas, service connected death benefits may be awarded upon an evidentiary showing that the cause of death is directly due to service or service connected disabilities, or contributed materially to by service connected disabilities, and

Whereas, medical science upon which the determinations of the Veterans Administration are made is inexact, and

Whereas, because of this there results much uncertainty as to the interrelated or contributory effect that one disease, disability or injury may have in the production of other conditions or in the debilitation of the bodily systems and organs to the extent that they are more readily susceptible to the onslaught of other conditions, and

Whereas, the responsibility of furnishing proof, including expert medical opinions, rests upon the claimant, and

Whereas, the dependents of a veteran who has been severely disabled over a prolonged period from one or a combination of multiple disabilities, most likely would not be able to afford or produce expert medical testimony as to etiological or causal relationship.

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled at Denver, Colorado, July 31 through August 4, 1967, that the cause of death of any veteran who has been rated at 100% or more disabled for a period of 20 or more years shall be held to be due to, or contributed materially to by, service connected conditions unless contraindicated by the circumstances of the death.

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(RESOLUTION No. 67, LEGISLATIVE)

REQUESTING LEGISLATION TO PROVIDE EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS FOR WIDOWS OF VETERANS
WHO DIE OF A SERVICE-CONNECTED DISABILITY

Whereas, a veteran may die of a service connected disability and his wife be too young to retire, and

Whereas, the widow may have taken care of her husband for the past 20 years because of his service connected disability and has been out of contact with employment, and

Whereas, as the latest training and techniques are new to her, she cannot compete for a substantial job,

Now, therefore, be it resolved, that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled at Denver, Colorado, July 31 through August 4, 1967, go on record sponsoring a law to provide the widows of veterans who die of service connected disabilities with training or educational rights so they may be better prepared for a useful life after their husbands have passed away.

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(RESOLUTION No. 93, LEGISLATIVE)

FAVORING LEGISLATION TO PROVIDE DIC BENEFITS FOR THE WIDOWS OF SERVICE-
CONNECTED VETERANS RATED 100-PERCENT DISABLED

Whereas, when a veteran, with a service connected disability, dies from a non-service connected disability, his widow will not be eligible to receive Dependency and Indemnity Compensation, and