

RECOMMENDATIONS OF VETERANS' ORGANIZATIONS, 1968 3557

curring in or aggravated by military service and to compensate for the pain and suffering, loss of health, vitality, life expectancy, employment and financial opportunities and therefore regarded as earned benefits, and

Whereas, nonservice connected pension benefits are a gratuity benefit payable to veterans who served a mere 90 days or more, one day during wartime, have an honorable discharge and are considered permanently and totally disabled from disabilities not due to service and whose income is within certain income limitations, and

Whereas, veterans entitled to wartime disability compensation rates, who are totally disabled from a combination of their service connected and nonservice connected disabilities entitling them to nonservice connected pension benefits, must under the present interpretation of the dual compensation law forfeit their disability compensation in order to receive the greater amount in pension benefits upon the theory that to pay both benefits concurrently would not conflict with the dual compensation law, and

Whereas, although the Disabled American Veteran does not oppose liberal benefits to veterans who served a mere 90 days stateside, we do hold that it is most inequitable for veterans with gunshot wounds or other disabilities incurred in combat, such as a veteran whose leg was shot off on the battlefield, entitling him to only \$82.00 per month compensation, to have to forfeit his compensation in order to receive the same nonservice pension payment as a veteran who served a mere 90 days stateside and received no disability as a result of such service,

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 recommending passage of legislation correcting the existing inequities and provide that veterans entitled to disability compensation for disabilities incurred in or aggravated by military service and where the service connected disability in combination with nonservice connected disabilities meets the schedular requirements for nonservice connected pension benefits and otherwise meet the pension requirements, shall be entitled to receive the full amount of his disability compensation and in addition thereto, after subtracting the service connected disability evaluation rating from 100%, shall be entitled to receive that percentage of nonservice connected pension entitlement under the prescribed income limitations exclusive of his compensation payment. We hold that this benefit would not be in conflict with the dual compensation laws.

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(RESOLUTION No. 324, LEGISLATIVE)

INCREASE IN WAR ORPHANS' EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS

Whereas, educational assistance payments under the War Orphans' Act as amended by Public Law 88-361 have lagged far behind the rising cost of education, tuition, books, laboratory supplies, etc., and

Whereas, educational assistance rates for veterans have been increased to meet the increased educational cost,

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 recommending necessary legislation to provide for a substantial increase in the educational assistance benefits payable under the War Orphans' Act as amended by Public Law 88-361. To deny such increase would work undue hardship on the child already in school under the Act, and in some cases result in the child having to discontinue or alter educational objectives due to lack of funds and would defeat the purpose for which the original act was enacted.

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(RESOLUTION No. 325, LEGISLATIVE)

EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS FOR CHILDREN OF VETERANS RATED 50 PERCENT OR MORE
DISABLED AS THE RESULT OF SERVICE CONNECTED DISABILITY

Whereas, Public Law 88-361 amended the war orphans educational assistance act to include the children of veterans permanently and totally disabled from their service connected conditions, and

Whereas, many veterans are suffering from service connected disabilities not rateable as total by the rating schedule, but which disabilities curtail the