

Government is required to forfeit a sizeable portion of his retired pay. This forfeiture of pay is not imposed on a retired career reservist, even though that reservist may be receiving the same amount of retired pay as the regular. It is difficult to reconcile the discriminatory treatment of the retired regular officer. Therefore, the Commission recommends that the Secretary of Defense and the Chairman of the Civil Service Commission initiate and lend their support to a legislative proposal to amend the Dual Compensation Act of 1964.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 77

The Commission recommends that Department of Defense commissary privileges be granted to widows of veterans who die of service-connected causes.

Background to Recommendation:

The Department of Defense grants commissary privileges to unremarried widows of members of the Armed Forces who die while on active duty, and to unremarried widows of retired members. This privilege is not accorded unremarried widows of veterans who die of service-connected causes and who were not retired members of the Armed Forces at the time of death.

Therefore, the Commission believes that equity demands that these unremarried widows be authorized Commissary privileges. We recommend that the VA forward such a request to the Department of Defense.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 78

The Commission recommends that legislation be enacted to protect the interests of children and other beneficiaries of deceased veterans who are under a legal disability and unaware of their rights.

Background to Recommendation:

Death compensation, dependency and indemnity compensation and pension are payable from the first of the month in which a veteran died only if an application is filed within