

Whereas Korean Veterans were eligible for educational assistance at the rate of one and one-half days to one day of active duty service. But the Cold War veterans are eligible for educational assistance or training for a period only equal to their active duty service. Consequently under the Cold War Bill, a serviceman who served for twenty-four months is eligible for only twenty-four months of educational assistance—enough to cover only two and one-half years of college, and

Whereas our Cold War and Vietnam veterans are in no way less deserving than our Korean veterans. The need for investment in our Cold War and Vietnam veterans is a great today as it was in the Korean era: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, August 18 to 23, 1968. That existing laws be amended so that each eligible veteran shall be entitled to educational assistance for a period equal to one-and-a-half times the length of his service on active duty after January 31, 1955.

RESOLUTION 137—CONCURRENT PAYMENT OF DISABILITY COMPENSATION PROGRAMS PENSION TO CERTAIN VETERANS

Whereas the historic policy of this nation is that its first duty is to veterans with disabilities incurred in or aggravated by military service during time of war and to adequately compensate the veteran for pain, suffering, loss of health, vitality, life expectancy, employment and financial opportunities and, therefore, regarded as earned benefits, and

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

Whereas many veterans entitled to wartime disability compensation for their service-connected disabilities are also entitled to non-service-connected pension payments for disabilities not due to service exclusive of their service connected disability; however, upon the theory that payment of compensation and pension concurrently is in conflict with the dual compensation laws, the service-connected veteran must forfeit his compensation for his service-connected disability in order to receive the greater amount of pension, and

Whereas we do hold that it is most inequitable for veterans with gunshot wounds and 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 relegate him to a second-class citizen by having him forfeit his compensation in order to receive the same non-service pension benefit as the veteran with only 90 days service stateside, and who received no disabilities as a result of such service, and

Whereas veterans who received severance pay as a result of a certain disability incurred in military service may not receive compensation for that particular disability for which he was discharged from service; however, he is entitled to compensation for other service connected conditions and payment in cases such as this is so held not to be in conflict with the dual compensation law upon the theory that the veteran is not being paid dual benefits for the same disability: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, August 18 to 23, 1968, go on record recommending the passage of legislation correcting the existing inconsistency and inequity in the interpretation of the dual compensation law by the passage of legislation providing that in cases where a veteran receiving compensation for a service connected disability who, in addition has sufficient non-service connected disabilities exclusive of the service connected disability to meet the schedular requirement for non-service connected pension payments, and who is otherwise entitled, be entitled to receive the full amount of his compensation payment and in addition thereto the full amount of non-service connected pension benefits with no total payment to exceed the compensation rate payable for a 100% service connected disability; we hold this consistent with the interpretation of the dual compensation law pertaining to severance pay and would not be paying the veterans twice for the same disability and therefore not in conflict with the dual compensation laws.