

Whereas in certain cases, the amount of Dependency and Indemnity Compensation paid to a widow for the minor children of the veteran is reduced by an amount equal to social security benefits or railroad retirement benefits received: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, August 18 to 23, 1968, That the amount of Dependency and Indemnity Compensation paid under title 38, U.S.C., for the orphaned children of deceased veterans, shall not be reduced due to the reduction or deduction provisions of section 403 of title 42, U.S.C., nor under the reduction provisions of sections 228c or 228e of title 45, U.S.C..

RESOLUTION 423—CONCURRENT PAYMENT OF DEPENDENCY AND INDEMNITY
COMPENSATION AND DEATH PENSION

Whereas the Disabled American Veterans is concerned with the widows and orphans of veterans, and

Whereas these widows should be adequately compensated: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, August 18 to 23, 1968, That the widows of deceased war-service connected disabled veterans who die of non-service-connected disabilities be entitled to draw the full rate of non-service-connected death pension and a proportionate amount of DIC or death compensation under a specified formula.

RESOLUTION 425—FAVORING LEGISLATION TO PROVIDE DIC BENEFITS FOR WIDOWS
OF VETERANS RATED 100 PERCENT SERVICE-CONNECTED FOR 20 YEARS OR MORE

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

Whereas medical science, upon which the Veterans' Administration makes its determinations 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 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 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, August 18 to 23, 1968, That the cause of death of any veteran who has been rated at 100 percent or more disabled for a period of 20 or more years shall be held to be due to the service connected conditions unless contraindicated by unusual circumstances of the death.

RESOLUTION 452—TO GRANT SERVICE CONNECTION FOR ANY CHRONIC DISEASE
BECOMING MANIFEST WITHIN 5 YEARS AFTER A POW'S DISCHARGE FROM
SERVICE

Whereas any veteran who has been a prisoner of war of our Nation's enemies has suffered experience unique to that of the average ex-serviceman, and

Whereas in many instances, the prisoner of war was subject to disease, malnutrition, exposure, or brutality sufficient in nature to weaken his mental and physical resistance to such an extent that he was prone to have lowered resistance to physical and mental hazards for many years after his release from military service, and

Whereas the plight of the former prisoner of war has not been recognized by the passage of any significant legislation to acknowledge the fact that his ordeals precipitated a physical or mental breakdown beyond the presumptive periods for establishment of service connection for chronic diseases granted all wartime veterans: Now, therefore, be it