an executive secretary to oversee the work of the staff under the general direction of the Commission.

Travel expenses, etc.

SEC. 8. All members and other personnel of the Commission shall be reimbursed for travel, subsistence, and necessary expenses in accordance with law.

Administrative services.

SEC. 9. The Department of Labor shall provide the Commission necessary administrative services (including those related to budgeting, accounting, financial reporting, personnel, and procurement) for which payment shall be made in advance, or by reimbursement, from funds of the Commission in such amounts as may be agreed upon by the Commission and the Secretary of Labor.

Hearings.

SEC. 10. The Commission, or on the authorization of the Commission, any subcommittee or panel thereof, may, for the purpose of carrying out its functions and duties, hold such hearings and sit and act at such times and places as the Commission or such subcommittee or panel may deem advisable.

Contracts.

SEC. 11. The Commission is authorized to negotiate and enter into contracts with private organizations to carry out such studies and to prepare such reports as the Commission determines to be necessary in order to carry out its duties.

Information from other agencies.

SEC. 12. The Commission is authorized to secure directly from any executive department, agency, or independent instrumentality of the Government any information it deems necessary to carry out its functions under this Act; and each such department, agency, and instrumentality is authorized and directed to cooperate with the Commission and, to the extent permitted by law, to furnish such information to the Commission, upon request made by the Chairman.

Report to President and Congress.

SEC. 13. The Commission shall submit a final report of its findings and recommendations to the President and the Congress by January 1, 1966. The Commission shall cease to exist thirty days after submitting its final report.

Appropriation.

SEC. 14. There are hereby authorized to be appropriated to the Commission, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, such sums not in excess of $1,000,000, as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act.

Approved August 19, 1964.

Public Law 88-445

August 19, 1964
[H. R. 8925]

AN ACT

To amend title 38 of the United States Code in order to provide that a disability which has been rated at or above a certain percentage for twenty or more years may not thereafter be reduced below such percentage.

Veterans; disability ratings.
72 Stat. 1113;
76 Stat. 950.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That (a) section 110 of title 38, United States Code, is amended by inserting immediately after the first sentence thereof the following new sentence: "A disability which has been continuously rated at or above any percentage for twenty or more years for compensation purposes under laws administered by the Veterans' Administration shall not thereafter be rated at less than such percentage, except upon a showing that such rating was based on fraud."

(b) The side heading of such section 110 is amended by striking out "total".

(c) The table of sections of chapter 1 of title 38, United States Code, is amended by striking out "Preservation of total" and inserting in lieu thereof "Preservation of".

Approved August 19, 1964.

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