

ans in hospitals shall be calculated on the basis of a per diem rate approved by the Office of Management and Budget.

(Pub. L. 85-857, Sept. 2, 1958, 72 Stat. 1143, § 616; Pub. L. 94-581, title II, § 202(g), Oct. 21, 1976, 90 Stat. 2856; Pub. L. 97-295, § 4(95)(A), Oct. 12, 1982, 96 Stat. 1313; renumbered § 1716 and amended Pub. L. 102-83, §§ 4(a)(3), (4), (b)(1), (2)(E), 5(a), Aug. 6, 1991, 105 Stat. 404-406.)

#### AMENDMENTS

1991—Pub. L. 102-83, § 5(a), renumbered section 616 of this title as this section.

Pub. L. 102-83, § 4(b)(1), (2)(E), substituted "Secretary" for "Administrator".

Pub. L. 102-83, § 4(a)(3), (4), substituted "Department" for "Veterans' Administration" in two places.

1982—Pub. L. 97-295 substituted "Health and Human Services" for "Health, Education, and Welfare".

1976—Pub. L. 94-581 substituted "Office of Management and Budget" for "Bureau of the Budget".

#### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1976 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 94-581 effective Oct. 21, 1976, see section 211 of Pub. L. 94-581, set out as a note under section 111 of this title.

### § 1717. Home health services; invalid lifts and other devices

(a)(1) As part of medical services furnished to a veteran under section 1710(a) of this title, the Secretary may furnish such home health services as the Secretary finds to be necessary or appropriate for the effective and economical treatment of the veteran.

(2) Improvements and structural alterations may be furnished as part of such home health services only as necessary to assure the continuation of treatment for the veteran's disability or to provide access to the home or to essential lavatory and sanitary facilities. The cost of such improvements and structural alterations (or the amount of reimbursement therefor) under this subsection may not exceed—

(A) in the case of medical services furnished under section 1710(a)(1) of this title, or for a disability described in section 1710(a)(2)(C) of this title—

(i) in the case of a veteran who first applies for benefits under this paragraph before May 5, 2010, \$4,100; or

(ii) in the case of a veteran who first applies for benefits under this paragraph on or after May 5, 2010, \$6,800; and

(B) in the case of medical services furnished under any other provision of section 1710(a) of this title—

(i) in the case of a veteran who first applies for benefits under this paragraph before May 5, 2010, \$1,200; or

(ii) in the case of a veteran who first applies for benefits under this paragraph on or after May 5, 2010, \$2,000.

(3) The Secretary may furnish home health services to a veteran in any setting in which the veteran is residing. The Secretary may not furnish such services in such a manner as to relieve any other person or entity of a contractual obligation to furnish services to the veteran. When home health services are furnished in a setting other than the veteran's home, such services

may not include any structural improvement or alteration.

(b) The Secretary may furnish an invalid lift, or any type of therapeutic or rehabilitative device, as well as other medical equipment and supplies (excluding medicines), if medically indicated, to any veteran who is receiving (1) compensation under section 1114(l)-(p) of this title (or the comparable rates provided pursuant to section 1134 of this title), or (2) pension under chapter 15 of this title by reason of being in need of regular aid and attendance.

(c) The Secretary may furnish devices for assisting in overcoming the handicap of deafness (including telecaptioning television decoders) to any veteran who is profoundly deaf and is entitled to compensation on account of hearing impairment.

(d)(1) In the case of a member of the Armed Forces who, as determined by the Secretary, has a disability permanent in nature incurred or aggravated in the line of duty in the active military, naval, or air service, the Secretary may furnish improvements and structural alterations for such member for such disability or as otherwise described in subsection (a)(2) while such member is hospitalized or receiving outpatient medical care, services, or treatment for such disability if the Secretary determines that such member is likely to be discharged or released from the Armed Forces for such disability.

(2) The furnishing of improvements and alterations under paragraph (1) in connection with the furnishing of medical services described in subparagraph (A) or (B) of subsection (a)(2) shall be subject to the limitation specified in the applicable subparagraph.

(Added Pub. L. 86-211, § 5, Aug. 29, 1959, 73 Stat. 435, § 617; amended Pub. L. 88-450, § 6(a), (c), Aug. 19, 1964, 78 Stat. 504; Pub. L. 90-77, title I, § 109, Aug. 31, 1967, 81 Stat. 180; Pub. L. 90-493, § 3(a), Aug. 19, 1968, 82 Stat. 809; Pub. L. 97-295, § 4(18), Oct. 12, 1982, 96 Stat. 1306; Pub. L. 98-528, title I, § 107, Oct. 19, 1984, 98 Stat. 2690; Pub. L. 99-576, title II, § 202(2), Oct. 28, 1986, 100 Stat. 3254; Pub. L. 100-322, title I, § 101(d), May 20, 1988, 102 Stat. 491; renumbered § 1717 and amended Pub. L. 102-83, §§ 4(b)(1), (2)(E), 5(a), (c)(1), Aug. 6, 1991, 105 Stat. 404-406; Pub. L. 102-405, title I, § 101(a), Oct. 9, 1992, 106 Stat. 1973; Pub. L. 104-262, title I, § 101(d)(6), Oct. 9, 1996, 110 Stat. 3180; Pub. L. 105-114, title IV, § 402(b), Nov. 21, 1997, 111 Stat. 2294; Pub. L. 110-289, div. B, title VI, § 2601, July 30, 2008, 122 Stat. 2858; Pub. L. 111-163, title V, § 516(a), May 5, 2010, 124 Stat. 1166; Pub. L. 111-275, title X, § 1001(c)(1), Oct. 13, 2010, 124 Stat. 2896.)

#### AMENDMENTS

2010—Subsec. (a)(2)(A), (B). Pub. L. 111-275 substituted "May 5, 2010" for "the date of the Caregivers and Veterans Omnibus Health Services Act of 2010" wherever appearing.

Pub. L. 111-163 added subpars. (A) and (B) and struck out former subpars. (A) and (B) which read as follows:

"(A) \$4,100 in the case of medical services furnished under section 1710(a)(1) of this title, or for a disability described in section 1710(a)(2)(C) of this title; or

"(B) \$1,200 in the case of medical services furnished under any other provision of section 1710(a) of this title."

2008—Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 110-289 added subsec. (d).

1997—Subsec. (a)(1). Pub. L. 105–114, § 402(b)(1), substituted “treatment of the veteran” for “treatment of the veteran’s disability”.

Subsec. (a)(2)(B). Pub. L. 105–114, § 402(b)(2), substituted “section 1710(a)” for “section 1710(a)(2)”.

1996—Subsec. (a)(1). Pub. L. 104–262, § 101(d)(6)(A), substituted “section 1710(a)” for “section 1712(a)”.

Subsec. (a)(2)(A). Pub. L. 104–262, § 101(d)(6)(B)(i), substituted “section 1710(a)(1) of this title, or for a disability described in section 1710(a)(2)(C) of this title” for “paragraph (1) of section 1712(a) of this title”.

Subsec. (a)(2)(B). Pub. L. 104–262, § 101(d)(6)(B)(ii), substituted “section 1710(a)(2)” for “section 1712”.

1992—Subsec. (a)(2). Pub. L. 102–405 substituted “\$4,100” for “\$2,500” in subpar. (A) and “\$1,200” for “\$600” in subpar. (B).

1991—Pub. L. 102–83, § 5(a), renumbered section 617 of this title as this section.

Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 102–83, § 5(c)(1), substituted “1712(a)” for “612(a)” in pars. (1) and (2)(A) and “1712” for “612” in par. (2)(B).

Pub. L. 102–83, § 4(b)(1), (2)(E), substituted “Secretary” for “Administrator” wherever appearing in pars. (1) and (3).

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 102–83, § 5(c)(1), substituted “1114(l)–(p)” for “314(l)–(p)” and “1134” for “334”.

Pub. L. 102–83, § 4(b)(1), (2)(E), substituted “Secretary” for “Administrator”.

Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 102–83, § 4(b)(1), (2)(E), substituted “Secretary” for “Administrator”.

1988—Pub. L. 100–322, § 101(d)(3), substituted “Home health services; invalid” for “Invalid” in section catchline.

Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 100–322, § 101(d)(1)(B), added subsec. (a). Former subsec. (a) redesignated (b).

Subsec. (a)(3). Pub. L. 100–322, § 101(d)(2), transferred subsec. (k) of section 612 of this title to subsec. (a) of this section and redesignated it as par. (3).

Subsecs. (b), (c). Pub. L. 100–322, § 101(d)(1)(A), redesignated subsecs. (a) and (b) as (b) and (c), respectively.

1986—Subsec. (a)(3) [formerly § 612(k)]. Pub. L. 99–576 added subsec. (k). See 1988 Amendment note above.

1984—Pub. L. 98–528 designated existing provision as subsec. (a) and added subsec. (b).

1982—Pub. L. 97–295 substituted “section 314(l)–(p) of this title (or the comparable rates provided pursuant to section 334 of this title)” for “subsections 314(l)–(p) (or the comparable rates provided pursuant to section 334) of this title”.

1968—Pub. L. 90–493 substituted “Invalid lifts and other devices” for “Invalid lifts and other devices for pensioners” in section catchline, and inserted provisions authorizing the Administrator to furnish lifts and other devices to any veteran who is receiving compensation under subsections 314(l)–(p) (or the comparable rates provided pursuant to section 334) of this title.

1967—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 90–77 substituted “to any veteran in receipt of pension under chapter 15 of this title based on need of regular aid and attendance” for “to any veteran who is eligible to receive an invalid lift under subsection (a) of this section, or who would be so eligible, but for the fact that he has such a lift”.

1964—Pub. L. 88–450 inserted “and other devices” in section catchline, designated existing provisions of section as subsec. (a), and added subsec. (b).

#### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1992 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 102–405, title I, § 101(b), Oct. 9, 1992, 106 Stat. 1973, provided that: “The amendments made by subsection (a) [amending this section] shall apply with respect to a veteran who first applies for benefits under section 1717(a)(2) of title 38, United States Code, after December 31, 1989.”

#### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1988 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 100–322 applicable with respect to furnishing of medical services to veterans who apply for such services after June 30, 1988, see section

101(i) of Pub. L. 100–322, set out as a note under section 1703 of this title.

#### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1967 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 90–77 effective first day of first calendar month which begins more than ten days after Aug. 31, 1967, see section 405 of Pub. L. 90–77, set out as a note under section 101 of this title.

#### EFFECTIVE DATE

Section effective July 1, 1960, see section 10 of Pub. L. 86–211, set out as an Effective Date of 1959 Amendment note under section 1521 of this title.

#### APPLICABILITY OF INCREASE IN GRANT LIMITS

Pub. L. 111–163, title V, § 516(b), May 5, 2010, 124 Stat. 1167, provided that: “A veteran who exhausts such veteran’s eligibility for benefits under section 1717(a)(2) of such title [probably means 38 U.S.C. 1717(a)(2)] before the date of the enactment of this Act [May 5, 2010], is not entitled to additional benefits under such section by reason of the amendments made by subsection (a) [amending this section].”

Pub. L. 102–405, title I, § 101(c), Oct. 9, 1992, 106 Stat. 1973, provided that: “A veteran who exhausts such veteran’s eligibility for benefits under section 1717(a)(2) of title 38, United States Code, before January 1, 1990, is not entitled to additional benefits under such section by reason of the amendments made by subsection (a) [amending this section].”

#### § 1718. Therapeutic and rehabilitative activities

(a) In providing rehabilitative services under this chapter, the Secretary, upon the recommendation of the Under Secretary for Health, may use the services of patients and members in Department health care facilities for therapeutic and rehabilitative purposes. Such patients and members shall not under these circumstances be held or considered as employees of the United States for any purpose. The Secretary shall prescribe the conditions for the use of such services.

(b)(1) In furnishing rehabilitative services under this chapter, the Secretary, upon the recommendation of the Under Secretary for Health, may enter into a contract or other arrangement with any appropriate source (whether or not an element of the Department of Veterans Affairs or of any other Federal entity) to provide for therapeutic work for patients and members in Department health care facilities.

(2) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary may also furnish rehabilitative services under this subsection through contractual arrangements with nonprofit entities to provide for such therapeutic work for such patients. The Secretary shall establish appropriate fiscal, accounting, management, record-keeping, and reporting requirements with respect to the activities of any such nonprofit entity in connection with such contractual arrangements.

(c)(1) There is hereby established in the Treasury of the United States a revolving fund known as the Department of Veterans Affairs Special Therapeutic and Rehabilitation Activities Fund (hereinafter in this section referred to as the “fund”) for the purpose of furnishing rehabilitative services authorized in subsection (b) or (d). Such amounts of the fund as the Secretary may determine to be necessary to establish and maintain operating accounts for the various re-