Code of 1954'', which for purposes of codification was translated as ''title 26'' thus requiring no change in text.

1981—Subsec. (h). Pub. L. 97–119, § 104(b)(1), substituted ''by section 9501 of title 26'' for ''in section 934a(a)(1) of this title''.

Subsec. (i). Pub. L. 97–119, § 205(b), added subsec. (i).

1978—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 95–239, § 2(a), substituted ''a chronic dust disease of the lung and its sequelae, including respiratory and pulmonary impairments, arising out of coal mine employment'' for ''a chronic dust disease of the lung arising out of employment in a coal mine''.

Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 95–239, § 2(b), substituted ''any individual who works or has worked in or around a coal mine or coal preparation facility in the extraction or preparation of coal'' for ''any individual who is or was employed in a coal mine'' and inserted provisions that extended to definition of the term ''miner'' so as to include also an individual who works or has worked in coal mine construction or transportation in or around a coal mine, to the extent that such individual was exposed to coal dust as a result of such employment.

Subsec. (f). Pub. L. 95–239, § 2(c), designated existing provisions as pars. (1)(A) and (1)(C), inserted references in the provisions preceding par. (1)(A) to regulations promulgated by the Secretary of Labor for claims under part C of this subchapter and to the relevant provisions of subsecs. (b) and (d) of section 923 of this title, and added pars. (1)(B), (1)(D), and (2).

Subsec. (h). Pub. L. 95–239, § 2(d), added subsec. (h).

1972—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 92–303, § 1(c)(2), expanded definition of ''dependent'' to include children and wife without reference to section 8110 of title 5.

Subsecs. (b), (d). Pub. L. 92–303, § 3(b), substituted ''a coal mine'' for ''an underground coal mine''.

Subsec. (e). Pub. L. 92–303, § 1(c)(3), expanded definition of ''widow'' by reference to title 42 and provided procedure for the determination of the status.

Subsec. (f). Pub. L. 92–303, § 4(a), expanded definition of ''total disability'' to include a miner prevented from engaging in gainful employment by pneumoconiosis.

Subsec. (g). Pub. L. 92–303, § 1(c)(4), added subsec. (g).

§ 903. Field offices

(a) The Secretary of Labor shall establish and operate such field offices as may be necessary to assist miners and survivors of miners in the filing and processing of claims under this subchapter. Such field offices shall, to the extent feasible, be reasonably accessible to such miners and survivors. The Secretary, in connection with the establishment and operation of field offices, may enter into arrangements with other Federal departments and agencies, and with State agencies, for the use of existing facilities operated by such departments and agencies. Where the establishment of separate facilities is not feasible the Secretary may enter into such arrangements as he deems necessary with the heads of Federal departments, agencies, and instrumentalities and with State agencies for the use of existing facilities and personnel under their control.

(b) There are authorized to be appropriated for the purposes of subsection (a) such sums as may be necessary.

(Pub. L. 95–239, § 18, Mar. 1, 1978, 92 Stat. 105.)

§ 904. Repealed. Pub. L. 107–275, § 2(c)(2), Nov. 2, 2002, 116 Stat. 1926

Section, Pub. L. 95–239, § 19, Mar. 1, 1978, 92 Stat. 106, related to providing information to potential beneficiaries of changes made by Black Lung Benefits Reform Act of 1977.

PART B—CLAIMS FOR BENEFITS FILED ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 31, 1973

§ 921. Regulations and presumptions

(a) Promulgation; payment of benefits

The Secretary shall, in accordance with the provisions of this part, and the regulations promulgated by him under this part, make pay-