

necessary travel performed not later than one year after the member is unable to accompany the dependents who are incapable of traveling alone” before period at end.

#### Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

##### PURPOSE OF CONSOLIDATION AND REFORM OF TRAVEL AND TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITIES OF THE UNIFORMED SERVICES

Pub. L. 112-81, div. A, title VI, §631(a), Dec. 31, 2011, 125 Stat. 1452, provided that: “This section [see Tables for classification] establishes general travel and transportation provisions for members of the uniformed services and other travelers authorized to travel under official conditions. Recognizing the complexities and the changing nature of travel, the amendments made by this section [see Tables for classification] provide the Secretary of Defense and the other administering Secretaries with the authority to prescribe and implement travel and transportation policy that is simple, clear, efficient, and flexible, and that meets mission and servicemember needs, while realizing cost savings that should come with a more efficient and less cumbersome system for travel and transportation.”

##### TRANSITION PROVISIONS

Pub. L. 112-81, div. A, title VI, §632, Dec. 31, 2011, 125 Stat. 1465, provided that:

“(a) IMPLEMENTATION PLAN.—The Secretary of Defense shall develop a plan to implement subchapters I and II of chapter 8 of title 37, United States Code (as added by section 631(b) of this Act), and to transition all of the travel and transportation programs for members of the uniformed services under chapter 7 of title 37, United States Code, solely to provisions of those subchapters by the end of the transition period.

“(b) AUTHORITY FOR MODIFICATIONS TO OLD-LAW AUTHORITIES DURING TRANSITION PERIOD.—During the transition period, the Secretary of Defense and the Secretaries concerned, in using the authorities under subchapter III of chapter 8 of title 37, United States Code (as so added), may apply those authorities subject to the terms of such provisions and such modifications as the Secretary of Defense may include in the implementation plan required under subsection (a) or in any subsequent modification to that implementation plan.

“(c) COORDINATION.—The Secretary of Defense shall prepare the implementation plan under subsection (a) and any modification to that plan under subsection (b) in coordination with—

“(1) the Secretary of Homeland Security, with respect to the Coast Guard;

“(2) the Secretary of Health and Human Services, with respect to the commissioned corps of the Public Health Service; and

“(3) the Secretary of Commerce, with respect to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

“(d) PROGRAM OF COMPLIANCE.—The Secretary of Defense and the other administering Secretaries shall commence the operation of the programs of compliance required by section 463 of title 37, United States Code (as so added), by not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act [Dec. 31, 2011].

“(e) TRANSITION PERIOD.—In this section, the term ‘transition period’ means the 10-year period beginning on the first day of the first month beginning after the date of the enactment of this Act.”

#### § 452. Allowable travel and transportation: general authorities

(a) IN GENERAL.—Except as otherwise prohibited by law, a member of the uniformed services or other authorized traveler may be provided transportation-, lodging-, or meals-in-kind, or actual and necessary expenses of travel and

transportation, for, or in connection with, official travel under circumstances as specified in regulations prescribed under section 464 of this title.

(b) SPECIFIC CIRCUMSTANCES.—The authority under subsection (a) includes travel under or in connection with, but not limited to, the following circumstances, to the extent specified in regulations prescribed under section 464 of this title:

(1) Temporary duty that requires travel between a permanent duty assignment location and another authorized temporary duty location, and travel in or around the temporary duty location.

(2) Permanent change of station that requires travel between an old and new temporary or permanent duty assignment location or other authorized location.

(3) Temporary duty or assignment relocation related to consecutive overseas tours or in-place-consecutive overseas tours.

(4) Recruiting duties for the armed forces.

(5) Assignment or detail to another Government department or agency.

(6) Rest and recuperative leave.

(7) Convalescent leave.

(8) Reenlistment leave.

(9) Reserve component inactive-duty training performed outside the normal commuting distance of the member’s permanent residence.

(10) Ready Reserve muster duty.

(11) Unusual, extraordinary, hardship, or emergency circumstances.

(12) Presence of family members at a military medical facility incident to the illness or injury of members.

(13) Presence of family members at the repatriation of members held captive.

(14) Presence of non-medical attendants for very seriously or seriously wounded, ill, or injured members.

(15) Attendance at Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program events.

(16) Missing status, as determined by the Secretary concerned under chapter 10 of this title.

(17) Attendance at or participation in international sports competitions described under section 717 of title 10.

(18) Travel by a dependent child to the United States to obtain formal secondary, undergraduate, graduate, or vocational education, if the permanent duty assignment location of the member of the uniformed services is outside the continental United States (other than in Alaska or Hawaii).

(19) Travel by a dependent child within the United States to obtain formal secondary, undergraduate, graduate, or vocational education, if the permanent duty assignment location of the member of the uniformed services is in Alaska or Hawaii and the school is located in a State outside of the permanent duty assignment location.

(20) Subject to subsection (i), travel by a dependent to a location where a member of the uniformed services is on permanent duty aboard a ship that is overhauling, inactivating, or under construction.

(21) Presence of family members at the funeral and memorial services of members.

(22) Permanent change of assignment to or from a naval vessel undergoing nuclear refueling or defueling and any concurrent complex overhaul, even if such assignment is within the same area as the current assignment of the member.

(23) Current assignment to a naval vessel entering or exiting nuclear refueling or defueling and any concurrent complex overhaul.

(c) MATTERS INCLUDED.—Travel and transportation allowances which may be provided under subsection (a) include the following:

(1) Allowances for transportation (including fares and tolls, without regard to distance travelled), lodging, and meals.

(2) Dislocation or relocation allowances paid in connection with a change in a member's temporary or permanent duty assignment location.

(3) A partial dislocation allowance paid to a member ordered to occupy or vacate housing provided by the United States.

(4) Passport and visa fees required for foreign travel.

(5) Other related miscellaneous expenses.

(d) MODE OF PROVIDING TRAVEL AND TRANSPORTATION ALLOWANCES.—Any authorized travel and transportation may be provided—

(1) as an actual expense;

(2) as an authorized allowance;

(3) in-kind; or

(4) using a combination of the authorities under paragraphs (1), (2), and (3).

(e) TRAVEL AND TRANSPORTATION ALLOWANCES WHEN TRAVEL ORDERS ARE MODIFIED, ETC.—An authorized traveler whose travel and transportation order or authorization is canceled, revoked, or modified may be allowed actual and necessary expenses or travel and transportation allowances in connection with travel performed pursuant to such order or authorization.

(f) ADVANCE PAYMENTS.—An authorized traveler may be allowed advance payments for authorized travel and transportation allowances.

(g) RESPONSIBILITY FOR UNAUTHORIZED EXPENSES.—Any unauthorized travel or transportation expense is not the responsibility of the United States.

(h) RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER AUTHORITIES.—The administering Secretary may not provide payment under this section for an expense for which payment may be provided from any other appropriate Government or non-Government entity.

(i) DEPENDENT TRANSPORTATION INCIDENT TO SHIP CONSTRUCTION, INACTIVATION, AND OVERHAULING.—The authority under subsection (a) for travel in connection with circumstances described in subsection (b)(20) shall be subject to the following terms and conditions:

(1) The member of the uniformed services must be permanently assigned to the ship for 31 or more consecutive days to be eligible for allowances, and the transportation allowances accrue on the 31st day and every 60 days thereafter.

(2) Transportation in kind, reimbursement for personally procured transportation, or a

monetary allowance for mileage in place of the cost of transportation may be provided, in lieu of the member's entitlement to transportation, for the member's dependents from the location that was the home port of the ship before commencement of overhaul or inactivation to the port of overhaul or inactivation.

(3) The total reimbursement for transportation for the member's dependents may not exceed the cost of one Government-procured commercial round-trip travel.

(j) TRAVEL FOR INACTIVE-DUTY TRAINING AND MUSTER DUTY.—(1) If a member of the uniformed services travels more than 50 miles from the member's permanent residence (as established under paragraph (2)) for training described in paragraph (9) of subsection (b) or duty described in paragraph (10) of that subsection, the member shall be provided, in the form of actual expenses, in-kind, or a combination thereof—

(A) actual and necessary expenses of travel and transportation for, or in connection with, such travel; and

(B) meals, incidentals, and expenses related to such travel, to the same extent specified in regulations prescribed under section 464 of this title for a member on official travel.

(2) For purposes of paragraph (1), the permanent residence of a member—

(A) shall be established not later than 30 days after the date on which the permanent duty assignment of the member begins; and

(B) may not be re-established until after the member receives subsequent orders for a permanent change of assignment.

(3) In the case of a member whose permanent residence changes after the date described in subparagraph (A) of paragraph (2) and before the member receives orders described in subparagraph (B) of such paragraph, the Secretary concerned may provide the member expenses described in paragraph (1) or such other reimbursement as the Secretary determines appropriate if the member travels more than 50 miles from the new permanent residence of the member for training described in paragraph (9) of subsection (b) or duty described in paragraph (10) of such subsection.

(Added Pub. L. 112-81, div. A, title VI, §631(b), Dec. 31, 2011, 125 Stat. 1455; amended Pub. L. 116-92, div. A, title VI, §607(b), Dec. 20, 2019, 133 Stat. 1425; Pub. L. 116-283, div. A, title VI, §605, title XII, §1299N, Jan. 1, 2021, 134 Stat. 3672, 4016; Pub. L. 117-81, div. A, title VI, §§603(c)(1), (d)(1), 623, Dec. 27, 2021, 135 Stat. 1766, 1767, 1772; Pub. L. 117-263, div. A, title VI, §621, Dec. 23, 2022, 136 Stat. 2625; Pub. L. 118-159, div. A, title VI, §623(a), Dec. 23, 2024, 138 Stat. 1933.)

#### APPLICABILITY OF AMENDMENT

*Amendment of section by Pub. L. 118-159 applicable to travel on or after Jan. 1, 2027. See 2024 Amendment note below.*

#### Editorial Notes

##### AMENDMENTS

2024—Subsec. (j). Pub. L. 118-159 added subsec. (j).

2022—Subsec. (b)(18), (21). Pub. L. 117-263, §621(1), redesignated par. (18), relating to presence of family members at the funeral and memorial services of members, as (21).

Subsec. (b)(22), (23). Pub. L. 117-263, §621(2), added pars. (22) and (23).

2021—Subsec. (b)(18). Pub. L. 117-81, §623, added par. (18) relating to presence of family members at the funeral and memorial services of members at end of subsec. (b).

Pub. L. 117-81, §603(c)(1), added par. (18) relating to travel by a dependent child to the United States to obtain formal secondary, undergraduate, graduate, or vocational education.

Subsec. (b)(19). Pub. L. 117-81, §603(c)(1), added par. (19).

Subsec. (b)(20). Pub. L. 117-81, §603(d)(1)(A), added par. (20).

Subsec. (c)(1). Pub. L. 116-283, §605, inserted “(including fares and tolls, without regard to distance travelled)” after “transportation”.

Subsec. (c)(4), (5). Pub. L. 116-283, §1299N, added par. (4) and redesignated former par. (4) as (5).

Subsec. (i). Pub. L. 117-81, §603(d)(1)(B), added subsec. (i).

2019—Subsec. (c)(3), (4). Pub. L. 116-92 added par. (3) and redesignated former par. (3) as (4).

#### Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

##### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2024 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 118-159, div. A, title VI, §623(b), Dec. 23, 2024, 138 Stat. 1934, provided that: “The amendment made by subsection (a) [amending this section] shall apply to travel on or after January 1, 2027.”

#### § 453. Allowable travel and transportation: specific authorities

(a) IN GENERAL.—In addition to any other authority for the provision of travel and transportation allowances, the administering Secretaries may provide travel and transportation allowances under this subchapter in accordance with this section.

(b) AUTHORIZED ABSENCE FROM TEMPORARY DUTY LOCATION.—An authorized traveler may be paid travel and transportation allowances, or reimbursed for actual and necessary expenses of travel, incurred at a temporary duty location during an authorized absence from that location.

(c) MOVEMENT OF PERSONAL PROPERTY.—(1) A member of a uniformed service may be allowed moving expenses and transportation allowances for self and dependents associated with the movement of personal property and household goods, including such expenses when associated with a self-move.

(2) The authority in paragraph (1) includes the movement and temporary and non-temporary storage of personal property, household goods, and privately owned vehicles in connection with the temporary or permanent move between authorized locations.

(3) For movement of household goods, the administering Secretaries shall prescribe weight allowances in regulations under section 464 of this title. The prescribed weight allowances may not exceed 18,000 pounds (including household goods in temporary storage, but excluding packing and crating), except that the administering Secretary may, on a case-by-case basis, authorize additional weight allowances as necessary.

(4) The administering Secretary may prescribe the terms, rates, and conditions that authorize a member of the uniformed services to ship or store privately owned vehicles.

(5) No carrier, port agent, warehouseman, freight forwarder, or other person involved in the transportation of property may have any lien on, or hold, impound, or otherwise interfere with, the movement of baggage and household goods being transported under this section.

(d) UNUSUAL OR EMERGENCY CIRCUMSTANCES.—An authorized traveler may be provided travel and transportation allowances under this section for unusual, extraordinary, hardship, or emergency circumstances, including circumstances warranting evacuation from a permanent duty assignment location.

(e) PARTICULAR SEPARATION PROVISIONS.—The administering Secretary may provide travel-in-kind and transportation-in-kind for the following persons in accordance with regulations prescribed under section 464 of this title:

(1) A member who is retired, or is placed on the temporary disability retired list, under chapter 61 of title 10.

(2) A member who is retired with pay under any other law or who, immediately following at least eight years of continuous active duty with no single break therein of more than 90 days, is discharged with separation pay or is involuntarily released from active duty with separation pay or readjustment pay.

(3) A member who is discharged under section 1173 of title 10.

(f) ATTENDANCE AT MEMORIAL CEREMONIES AND SERVICES.—A family member or member of the uniformed services who attends a deceased member’s repatriation, burial, or memorial ceremony or service may be provided travel and transportation allowances to the extent provided in regulations prescribed under section 464 of this title.

(g) REIMBURSEMENT OF QUALIFYING SPOUSE RELICENSING COSTS AND BUSINESS COSTS.—(1) From amounts otherwise made available for a fiscal year to provide travel and transportation allowances under this chapter, the Secretary concerned may reimburse a member of the uniformed services for qualified relicensing costs and qualified business costs of the spouse of the member when—

(A) the member relocates to a new jurisdiction or geographic area as the result of—

(i) an assignment to a duty station;

(ii) a reassignment, either as a result of a permanent change of station or permanent change of assignment, between duty stations;

(iii) a transfer from a regular component of a uniformed service into the Selected Reserve of the Ready Reserve of a uniformed service, if the member is authorized a final move from the last duty station to the new jurisdiction or geographic area; or

(iv) placement on the temporary disability retired list under chapter 61 of title 10; and

(B) the movement of the member’s dependents is authorized at the expense of the United States under this section as part of the relocation.