

(Added Pub. L. 105-339, §3(a), Oct. 31, 1998, 112 Stat. 3184; amended Pub. L. 108-454, title VIII, §804(b), Dec. 10, 2004, 118 Stat. 3626.)

#### Editorial Notes

##### AMENDMENTS

2004—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 108-454, which directed insertion of “, or a veteran described by section 3330a(a)(1)(B) with respect to a violation described by such section,” after “a preference eligible” in subsec. (a) of section 3330b, without specifying the Code title to be amended, was executed by making the insertion in subsec. (a) of this section, to reflect the probable intent of Congress.

#### § 3330c. Preference eligibles; remedy

(a) If the Merit Systems Protection Board (in a proceeding under section 3330a) or a court (in a proceeding under section 3330b) determines that an agency has violated a right described in section 3330a, the Board or court (as the case may be) shall order the agency to comply with such provisions and award compensation for any loss of wages or benefits suffered by the individual by reason of the violation involved. If the Board or court determines that such violation was willful, it shall award an amount equal to backpay as liquidated damages.

(b) A preference eligible who prevails in an action under section 3330a or 3330b shall be awarded reasonable attorney fees, expert witness fees, and other litigation expenses.

(Added Pub. L. 105-339, §3(a), Oct. 31, 1998, 112 Stat. 3184.)

#### § 3330d. Appointment of military spouses

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) The term “active duty”—

(A) has the meaning given that term in section 101(d)(1) of title 10;

(B) includes full-time National Guard duty (as defined in section 101(d)(5) of title 10); and

(C) for a member of a reserve component (as described in section 10101 of title 10), does not include training duties or attendance at a service school.

(2) The term “agency”—

(A) has the meaning given the term “Executive agency” in section 105 of this title; and

(B) does not include the Government Accountability Office.

(3) The term “spouse of a disabled or deceased member of the Armed Forces” means an individual—

(A) who is married to a member of the Armed Forces who—

(i) is retired, released, or discharged from the Armed Forces; and

(ii) on the date on which the member retires, is released, or is discharged, has a disability rating of 100 percent under the standard schedule of rating disabilities in use by the Department of Veterans Affairs; or

(B) who—

(i) was married to a member of the Armed Forces on the date on which the

member dies while on active duty in the Armed Forces; and

(ii) has not remarried.

(b) APPOINTMENT AUTHORITY.—The head of an agency may appoint noncompetitively—

(1) a spouse of a member of the Armed Forces on active duty; or

(2) a spouse of a disabled or deceased member of the Armed Forces.

(c) SPECIAL RULES REGARDING SPOUSE OF A DISABLED OR DECEASED MEMBER OF THE ARMED FORCES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—An appointment of an eligible spouse as described in subparagraph (A) or (B) of subsection (a)(3) is not restricted to a geographical area.

(2) SINGLE PERMANENT APPOINTMENT.—A spouse of a disabled or deceased member of the Armed Forces may not receive more than 1 permanent appointment under this section.

(Added Pub. L. 112-239, div. A, title V, §566(a), Jan. 2, 2013, 126 Stat. 1749; amended Pub. L. 114-328, div. A, title XI, §1131, Dec. 23, 2016, 130 Stat. 2457; Pub. L. 115-232, div. A, title V, §573(a), (c), Aug. 13, 2018, 132 Stat. 1779.)

##### AMENDMENT OF SECTION

*For expiration of amendment by Pub. L. 115-232 and revival of section, see Termination Date of 2018 Amendment note below.*

#### Editorial Notes

##### AMENDMENTS

2018—Pub. L. 115-232, §573(c), (e), temporarily amended section catchline generally, substituting “Appointment of military spouses” for “Appointment of certain military spouses”. See Termination Date of 2018 Amendment note below.

Subsec. (a)(3) to (6). Pub. L. 115-232, §573(a)(1), (e), temporarily redesignated par. (6) as (3) and temporarily struck out former pars. (3) to (5) which defined geographic area of the permanent duty station, permanent change of station, and relocating spouse of a member of the Armed Forces, respectively. See Termination Date of 2018 Amendment note below.

Subsecs. (b) to (d). Pub. L. 115-232, §573(a)(2)–(4), (e), temporarily added subsec. (b) relating to appointment authority, temporarily redesignated subsec. (d) as (c) and substituted “subsection (a)(3)” for “subsection (a)(6)” in par. (1), and temporarily struck out former subsecs. (b) and (c) relating to appointment authority and special rules regarding relocating spouse, respectively. See Termination Date of 2018 Amendment note below.

2016—Subsec. (c)(3). Pub. L. 114-328 added par. (3).

#### Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

##### TERMINATION DATE OF 2018 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 115-232, div. A, title V, §573(e), Aug. 13, 2018, 132 Stat. 1779, as amended by Pub. L. 117-263, div. A, title XI, §1111(a), Dec. 23, 2022, 136 Stat. 2820, provided that: “Effective on December 31, 2028—

“(1) the authority provided by this section [amending this section and enacting provisions set out as a note below], and the amendments made by this section [amending this section], shall expire; and

“(2) the provisions of section 3330d of title 5, United States Code, amended or repealed by such section are restored or revived as if such section had not been enacted.”

##### REGULATIONS

Pub. L. 112-239, div. A, title V, §566(b), Jan. 2, 2013, 126 Stat. 1751, provided that: “Not later than 180 after the