

Public Law 547

CHAPTER 348

AN ACT

May 31, 1956
[H. R. 8904]

To amend certain laws relating to the grade of certain personnel of the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marine Corps upon retirement.

Armed Forces,
Retired lists,
advancement.

10 USC 1002,
1004.

10 USC 594.

10 USC 943a
note.
Effective date.
Retirement ap-
plication.

10 USC 943a,
971b.

34 USC 350i.

34 USC 350i.

10 USC 1005.

34 USC 410c.

Restriction.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That—

(1) subsections 203 (a) and 203 (e) of the Army and Air Force Vitalization and Retirement Equalization Act of 1948 (62 Stat. 1085, 1086) are amended by striking the words "during the period September 9, 1940, to June 30, 1946,"; and

(2) section 5 of the Act of August 21, 1941, as amended (62 Stat. 1085), is further amended by striking the words "during the period September 9, 1940, to June 30, 1946,".

SEC. 2. (a) Section 2 of the Act of July 16, 1953 (ch. 203, 67 Stat. 175), is amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 2. This Act takes effect on June 29, 1948."

(b) A retired member of the Army or the Air Force who would have been eligible to be retired in a higher grade or advanced to a higher grade on a retired list if the amendment made by subsection (a) of this section had been in effect at the time of his discharge or release from active duty as a commissioned officer, shall, if he applies within one year after the effective date of this Act, be advanced on the applicable retired list to that higher grade, and be entitled to retired pay on and after the effective date of this Act at the rate prescribed by section 5 of the Act of July 31, 1935 (49 Stat. 507), as amended, for that grade.

SEC. 3. Section 10 (b) (2) of the Act of July 24, 1941, as added by subsection 8 (a) of the Act of February 21, 1946 (60 Stat. 28), is amended by adding after the word "Act" the words "or title III of the Act of August 7, 1947 (61 Stat. 829)".

SEC. 4. (a) Subsection 10 (e) of the Act of July 24, 1941, as added by subsection 8 (a) of the Act of February 21, 1946 (60 Stat. 28), is repealed effective February 21, 1946.

(b) Subsection 203 (f) of the Army and Air Force Vitalization and Retirement Equalization Act of 1948 (62 Stat. 1086) is repealed.

(c) Section 1 (c) of the Act of August 9, 1955 (69 Stat. 615), repealing section 7 (c) of the Act of February 21, 1946 (60 Stat. 26), is effective February 21, 1946.

(d) No part of this Act deprives any member or former member of the Armed Forces of entitlement to the retired or retirement pay to which he was entitled on the day before the day on which that part takes effect.

SEC. 5. No person is entitled to advancement on the retired list or to an increase in retired or retirement pay because of this Act for any period before the effective date of this Act.

Approved May 31, 1956.

Public Law 548

CHAPTER 349

AN ACT

June 4, 1956
[S. 460]

To amend section 4482 of the Revised Statutes, as amended (46 U. S. C. 475), relating to life preservers for river steamers.

River steamers.
Life preservers.
46 USC 475.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section 4482 of the Revised Statutes, as amended, is amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 4482. Every steam vessel navigating rivers only shall also be provided with an approved life preserver for each and every person allowed to be carried on said vessel by the certificate of inspection, including each member of the crew, which life preservers shall be kept in convenient and accessible places on such vessel in readiness for immediate use in case of accident. In lieu of an approved life preserver for each such person, the head of the Department in which the Coast Guard is operating may permit the use of such proportion of approved floats to the total number of persons carried or authorized to be carried as he may determine."

Approved June 4, 1956.

Public Law 549

CHAPTER 350

AN ACT

To authorize biennial inspection of the hulls and boilers of cargo vessels, and for other purposes.

June 4, 1956
[S. 743]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section 4417 of the Revised Statutes, as amended (U. S. C., 1952 edition, title 46, sec. 391), is further amended to read as follows:

Cargo vessels.
Biennial inspection.
33 Stat. 1023.
Steam vessels.

"SEC. 4417. (a) The head of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating shall require the Coast Guard to inspect before the same shall be put into service, and at least once in every year thereafter, the hull of every steam vessel carrying passengers; to determine to its satisfaction that every such vessel so submitted to inspection is of a structure suitable for the service in which she is to be employed, has suitable accommodations for passengers and the crew, and is in a condition to warrant the belief that she may be used in navigation, with safety to life, and that the vessel is in full compliance with the applicable requirements of this title or Acts amendatory or supplementary thereto and regulations thereunder; and if deemed expedient, to direct the vessel to be put in motion or to adopt any other suitable means to test her sufficiency and that of her equipment.

"(b) The head of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating shall require the Coast Guard to inspect before the same shall be put into service, and at least once in every two years thereafter, the hull of each steam vessel, not carrying passengers; to determine to its satisfaction that every such vessel so submitted to inspection is of a structure suitable for the service in which she is to be employed, has suitable accommodations for the crew, and is in a condition to warrant the belief that she may be used in navigation, with safety to life, and that the vessel is in full compliance with the applicable requirements of this title or Acts amendatory or supplementary thereto and regulations thereunder; and if deemed expedient, to direct the vessel to be put in motion or to adopt any other suitable means to test her sufficiency and that of her equipment.

"(c) The head of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating shall require the Coast Guard to inspect before the same shall be put into service, and at least once in every year thereafter, the hull of each sail vessel of over seven hundred gross tons carrying passengers for hire and all other vessels and barges of over one hundred gross tons carrying passengers for hire; and to determine to its satisfaction that every such vessel so submitted to inspection is of a structure suitable for the service in which she is to be employed, has suitable accommodations for the passengers and crew, and is in condition to warrant the belief that she may be used in navigation with safety to life.

Sail vessels.