
HOUSE BILL 1716

State of Washington

57th Legislature

2001 Regular Session

By Representatives Veloria, Mielke, Buck, O'Brien, Conway, Talcott, Hunt, Crouse, Clements, Murray, Schoesler, Miloscia, Benson, Tokuda, Santos, D. Schmidt, McDermott, Lovick, Cody, Campbell, Haigh, Keiser, Ogden and Dickerson; by request of Governor Locke

Read first time 02/01/2001. Referred to Committee on Children & Family Services.

1 AN ACT Relating to income assistance benefits for qualified World
2 War II veterans living in the Republic of the Philippines; adding a new
3 section to chapter 74.04 RCW; and creating a new section.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds and declares:

6 (1) That soldiers who were members of the government of the
7 Commonwealth of the Philippines military forces who were in the service
8 of the United States of America on July 31, 1941, including the
9 organized guerrilla forces under commanders appointed, designated, or
10 subsequently recognized by the Commander in Chief of the Southwest
11 Pacific Area or other competent authority in the Army of the United
12 States, performed an invaluable function during World War II.

13 (2) It is in the public interest for the state of Washington to
14 recognize those courageous soldiers who fought and defended American
15 interests during World War II and who are currently receiving
16 supplemental state benefits under RCW 74.04.620 as of December 14,
17 1999, by permitting them to return to their homeland to spend their
18 last days without a complete forfeiture of benefits.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 74.04 RCW
2 to read as follows:

3 (1) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any person
4 receiving benefits under RCW 74.04.620 on December 14, 1999, and who
5 meets the requirements of subsection (2) of this section is eligible to
6 receive benefits under this section although he or she does not retain
7 a residence in the state and returns to the Republic of the
8 Philippines, if he or she maintains a permanent residence in the
9 Republic of the Philippines without any lapse of his or her presence in
10 the Republic of the Philippines.

11 (2) A person subject to subsection (1) of this section is eligible
12 to receive benefits pursuant to this section if he or she was receiving
13 benefits pursuant to RCW 74.04.620 on December 14, 1999, and meets both
14 the following requirements:

15 (a) He or she is a veteran of World War II; and

16 (b)(i) He or she was a member of the government of the Commonwealth
17 of the Philippines military forces who was in the service of the United
18 States on July 26, 1941, or thereafter; or

19 (ii) He or she was a Regular Philippine Scout who enlisted in
20 Filipino-manned units of the United States Army prior to October 6,
21 1945; or

22 (iii) He or she was a member of the Special Philippine Scouts who
23 enlisted in the United States Armed Forces between October 6, 1945, and
24 June 30, 1947.

25 (3) Within funds appropriated for this purpose, the department is
26 authorized to make a one-time lump sum payment of one thousand five
27 hundred dollars to each person eligible for benefits under this
28 section.

29 (a) Benefits paid under this section are in lieu of benefits paid
30 under RCW 74.04.620 for the period for which the benefits are paid.

31 (b) Benefits are to be paid under this section for any period
32 during which the recipient is receiving benefits under Title 8 of the
33 federal Social Security Act as a result of the application of federal
34 Public Law 106-169, subject to any limitations imposed by this section.

35 (4) This section applies only to an individual who returns to the
36 Republic of the Philippines for the period during which the individual

1 establishes and maintains a residence in the Republic of the
2 Philippines.

--- END ---