

shall cooperate with veterans service organizations to assist entities in possession of unclaimed or abandoned human remains in determining if any such remains are the remains of veterans or other individuals eligible for burial in a national cemetery under the jurisdiction of the Secretary."

GUIDANCE REQUIRED

Pub. L. 111-275, title V, §502(c), Oct. 13, 2010, 124 Stat. 2882, provided that: "The Secretary of Veterans Affairs, in consultation with the Secretary of Defense, shall develop guidance under which the parent of a person described in paragraph (9)(B) of subsection (a) of section 2402 of title 38, United States Code, as added by subsection (b), may be designated for interment in a national cemetery under that section."

ELIGIBILITY OF FORMER PRISONERS OF WAR FOR BURIAL IN ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY

Pub. L. 103-160, div. A, title XI, §1176, Nov. 30, 1993, 107 Stat. 1768, provided that:

"(a) **ELIGIBILITY FOR BURIAL.**—Former prisoners of war described in subsection (b) are eligible for burial in Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, Virginia.

"(b) **ELIGIBLE FORMER POWS.**—A former prisoner of war referred to in subsection (a) is a former prisoner of war—

"(1) who dies on or after the date of the enactment of this Act [Nov. 30, 1993]; and

"(2) who, while a prisoner of war, served honorably in the active military, naval, or air service, as determined under regulations prescribed by the Secretary of the military department concerned.

"(c) **SAVINGS PROVISION.**—This section may not be construed to make ineligible for burial in Arlington National Cemetery a former prisoner of war who is eligible to be buried in that cemetery under another provision of law.

"(d) **REGULATIONS.**—This section shall be carried out under regulations prescribed by the Secretary of the Army. Those regulations may prescribe a minimum period of interment as a prisoner of war for purposes of eligibility under this section for burial in Arlington National Cemetery.

"(e) **DEFINITIONS.**—For purposes of this section:

"(1) The term 'former prisoner of war' has the meaning given such term in section 101(32) of title 38, United States Code.

"(2) The term 'active military, naval, or air service' has the meaning given such term in section 101(24) of such title."

§ 2403. Memorial areas

(a) The Secretary shall set aside, when available, suitable areas in national cemeteries to honor the memory of members of the Armed Forces and veterans—

(1) who are missing in action;

(2) whose remains have not been recovered or identified;

(3) whose remains were buried at sea, whether by the member's or veteran's own choice or otherwise;

(4) whose remains were donated to science; or

(5) whose remains were cremated and the ashes scattered without interment of any portion of the ashes.

(b) Under regulations prescribed by the Secretary, group memorials may be placed to honor the memory of groups of individuals referred to in subsection (a), and appropriate memorial headstones and markers may be placed to honor the memory of individuals referred to in subsection (a) and section 2306(b) of this title.

(c) All national and other veterans' cemeteries under the control of the National Cemetery Administration shall be considered national shrines as a tribute to our gallant dead and, notwithstanding the provisions of any other law, the Secretary is hereby authorized to permit appropriate officials to fly the flag of the United States of America at such cemeteries twenty-four hours each day.

(d)(1) Subject to standards established by the Secretary, the Secretary shall permit the display of a Fallen Soldier Display in any national cemetery.

(2) In this subsection, the term "Fallen Soldier Display" means a memorial monument in honor of fallen members of the Armed Forces that may include a replica of an inverted rifle, boots, helmets, and identification tag.

(Added Pub. L. 93-43, §2(a), June 18, 1973, 87 Stat. 76, §1003; amended Pub. L. 97-66, title VI, §603(b), Oct. 17, 1981, 95 Stat. 1034; Pub. L. 97-295, §4(34), Oct. 12, 1982, 96 Stat. 1307; Pub. L. 101-237, title III, §313(b)(1), Dec. 18, 1989, 103 Stat. 2077; renumbered §2403, Pub. L. 102-83, §5(a), Aug. 6, 1991, 105 Stat. 406; Pub. L. 105-368, title IV, §§401(c), 403(c)(6), Nov. 11, 1998, 112 Stat. 3335, 3339; Pub. L. 116-106, §2, Jan. 7, 2020, 133 Stat. 3291.)

Editorial Notes

REFERENCES IN TEXT

For cemeteries under the control of the National Cemetery Administration, referred to in subsec. (c), see section 2400(b) of this title.

AMENDMENTS

2020—Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 116-106 added subsec. (d).

1998—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 105-368, §401(c), amended subsec. (b) generally. Prior to amendment, subsec. (b) read as follows: "Under regulations prescribed by the Secretary, appropriate memorials or markers shall be erected to honor the memory of those individuals, or group of individuals, referred to in subsection (a) of this section."

Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 105-368, §403(c)(6), substituted "under the control of the National Cemetery Administration" for "in the National Cemetery System created by this chapter".

1991—Pub. L. 102-83 renumbered section 1003 of this title as this section.

1989—Pub. L. 101-237 substituted "Secretary" for "Administrator" wherever appearing.

1982—Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 97-295 substituted "chapter" for "Act" after "created by this".

1981—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 97-66 substituted provisions relating to members of the Armed Forces and veterans, for provisions that related only to members of the Armed Forces, struck out provisions limiting the subsection to persons who died or were killed while serving in the Armed Forces, and inserted provisions relating to persons whose remains have not been recovered, whose remains were donated to science, or whose remains were cremated and the ashes scattered without interment of any portion of the ashes.

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1981 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 97-66 applicable with respect to veterans dying before, on, or after Oct. 17, 1981, see section 701(b)(6) of Pub. L. 97-66, set out as a note under section 1114 of this title.

§ 2404. Administration

(a) The Secretary is authorized to make all rules and regulations which are necessary or ap-