



PERSONNEL AND
READINESS

UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

4000 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301-4000

JUL 11 2012

MEMORANDUM FOR SECRETARIES OF THE MILITARY DEPARTMENTS

SUBJECT: Post-Deployment/Mobilization Respite Absence Program Implementation Guidance for Public Law 112-120 [H.R. 4045]

This memorandum publishes the Department of Defense implementation guidance (Attachment 1) for Public Law 112-120 (Attachment 2), "An Act To modify the Department of Defense Program Guidance relating to the award of Post-Deployment/Mobilization Respite Absence administrative absence days to members of the reserve components to exempt any member whose qualified mobilization commenced before October 1, 2011, and continued on or after that date, from the changes to the program that took effect on that date."

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Mr. Carl Johnson, at 703-697-4615 or carl.johnson@osd.mil.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Erin C. Conaton".

Erin C. Conaton

Attachments:

As stated

cc:

Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller)

Chief of Staff, Army

Chief of Naval Operations

Chief of Staff, Air Force

Commandant of the Marine Corps

Assistant Secretary of the Army (Manpower and Reserve Affairs)

Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Manpower and Reserve Affairs)

Assistant Secretary of the Air Force (Manpower and Reserve Affairs)

Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel, U.S. Army

Deputy Chief of Naval Operations, U.S. Navy

Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel, U.S. Air Force

Deputy Commandant Manpower and Reserve Affairs, U.S. Marine Corps

Department of Defense Implementation Guidance for Public Law 112-120 [H.R. 4045]

- Each Military Department Secretary shall publish its implementing guidance by August 10, 2012. A copy of this guidance shall be provided to the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Military Personnel Policy upon publication.
- Each Military Department Secretary shall establish an application process to allow qualifying current and former Reserve Component (RC) members to apply for the benefits authorized by Public Law 112-120.
- Benefits are only authorized for RC members ~~who deployed OCONUS and~~ whose qualified mobilization commenced before October 1, 2011.
- Each Military Department Secretary shall provide qualifying applicants with a Post Deployment/Mobilization Respite Absence (PDMRA) day, or a payment of \$200 for each PDMRA day that the individual would have qualified for had the October 1, 2011, guidance changes not applied to that individual.
- Each Military Department's application for benefits shall require qualifying RC members to elect to receive either PDMRA days or payment of \$200 for each qualifying PDMRA day. The application shall caution members who are no longer mobilized in a status where they can utilize the PDMRA days and elect PDMRA days in lieu of payment that:
 - The PDMRA days will be banked and cannot be used until the next qualifying period of service, and
 - Banked PDMRA will be lost if the member is separated from the military prior to being able to use the PDMRA days.
- Qualifying former RC members will only receive \$200 per day for each PDMRA day.
- Former RC members who were discharged or released from the Armed Forces under other than honorable conditions are not eligible for benefits.
- Each Military Department Secretary may elect to pay each qualifying individual through a lump sum payment or installments.
- No payments shall be made to qualifying individuals until October 1, 2012, and may only commence on that date if authorized funds "used to make the payments are available pursuant to an appropriations Act enacted after" May 25, 2012, pursuant Public Law 112-120, paragraph (h).
- The authority to provide benefits under Public Law 112-120 expires on October 1, 2014.

- Expiration of authority does not affect the use, after October 1, 2014, of any PDMRA days provided to a member pursuant to Public Law 112-120.
- Expiration of authority does not affect the payment, after October 11, 2014, to a member who elected cash payment for PDMRA days provided pursuant to Public Law 112-120, provided the member elected the payment before October 1, 2014.
- Each Military Department shall:
 - Make a good faith effort to contact qualifying current and former RC members and educate them on the procedures for applying for benefits and of the fact that the authority to provide members with benefits expires on October 1, 2014,
 - Publicize the eligibility and application procedures, and
 - Absorb additional PDMRA program costs within resources available at the time benefits are paid (i.e., either when day of administrative absence is taken or \$200 per day payment is made).
 - Provide the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Military Personnel Policy with a summary of benefits provided pursuant to Public Law 112-120. Minimally the summary shall include the number of personnel provided benefits, total number of PDMRA days awarded, and the total cost of payments for individuals who elected to receive cash payments.
- Each Military Department Secretary shall establish administrative procedures to include requirements to track disbursements and maintain by-name records of benefits provided. If a claimant process is utilized, procedures to validate and certify claims must be established in consultation with the Defense Finance and Accounting Service.