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PAMPHLET
No. 6, November/December 2006

**MONTHLY RATES
Compensation
DIC
Pension**

FOREWORD

This pamphlet has been designed to provide the payment rates for veterans, widows and children eligible for disability or death benefits under the Department of Veterans Affairs programs. Section I provides the rates for Disability Compensation for veterans and Dependency and Indemnity Compensation for widows and children. Section II provides the rates for veterans, widows and children eligible for disability or death pension and for dependent parents of veterans whose deaths are shown to be service-connected.

The effective date of the Pension and DIC-Parents payment rates is December 1, 2006. Pension benefits under the Old Protected Law and Section 306 will **NOT** be increased, although the annual income limits were raised. It is important to understand that these payments are not increased because of the Cost of Living increases for Social Security recipients, but the annual income limits are raised to offset the Social Security increase. This is as a result of current law which ensures that a VA pensioner will not suffer a reduction or discontinuance of a VA pension solely because of an increase in Social Security benefits.

PL 109-111 authorized a 3.3% COLA for compensation and DIC. The effective date of the Compensation and DIC payment rates is December 1, 2006.

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SECTION I

DISABILITY COMPENSATION

Disability compensation is the monthly benefit paid to a veteran because of disease or injury which was incurred while on active duty. The following chart shows the monthly amount of disability compensation paid by the Department of Veterans Affairs, effective December 1, 2006:

<i>Percentage of Disability</i>	<i>Monthly Payment</i>
Title 38, Section 314	
(a) 10%	\$ 115
(b) 20%	225
(c) 30%	348
(d) 40%	501
(e) 50%	712
(f) 60%	901
(g) 70%	1,135
(h) 80%	1,319
(i) 90%	1,483
(j) 100%	2,471
(k) Additional monthly payment for anatomical loss or loss of use of any of these organs: 1 foot, 1 hand, blindness in 1 eye (having light perception only), one or more creative organs, both buttocks, organic aphonia (with constant inability to communicate by speech), deafness of both ears (having absence of air and bone conduction), loss of breast tissue, loss of creative organ	\$ 89
(l) Anatomical loss or loss of use of both hands, both feet, 1 foot and 1 hand, blindness in both eyes (5/200 visual acuity or less), permanently bedridden or so helpless as to require regular aid and attendance	\$ 3,075
(m) Anatomical loss or loss of use of two extremities so as to prevent natural elbow or knee action with prosthesis in place, blind in both eyes, either with light perception only or rendering veterans	

so helpless as to require regular aid and attendance	\$ 3,392
(n) Anatomical loss of two extremities so near shoulder or hip as to prevent use of prosthetics or anatomical loss of both eyes	\$ 3,860
(o) Disability under conditions entitling veteran to two or more of the rates provided in (l) through (n), no condition being considered twice in the determination, or deafness rated at 60 percent or more (impairment of either or both ears service-connected) in combination with total blindness (5/200 visual acuity or less)	\$ 4,313
(p) 1. If disabilities exceed requirements of any rates prescribed, Administrator of VA may allow next higher rate or an intermediate rate, but in no case may compensation exceed	\$ 4,313
2. Blindness in both eyes (with 5/200 visual acuity or less) together with (a) bilateral deafness rated at 40 percent or more disabling (impairment of either or both ears service-connected) next higher rate is payable, or (b) service-connected total deafness of one ear next intermediate rate is payable, but in no event may compensation exceed	\$ 4,313
3. Anatomical loss or loss of use of three extremities, the next higher rate in paragraphs (l) to (n) but in no event in excess of	\$ 4,313
(q) Statutory Award for arrested tuberculosis was abolished by Public Law 90-493, effective August 19, 1968, except for veterans already receiving or entitled to receive on that date. On and after that date, VA is not authorized to make any new awards for arrested tuberculosis. Those receiving the award will continue to receive payment as long as they remain eligible.	\$ 67

- (r) 1. If a veteran entitled to compensation under (o) or to the maximum rate under (p), and is in need of regular aid and attendance, he shall receive a special allowance of the amount indicated at right for aid and attendance in addition to the (o) or (p) rate \$ 1,851
- 2. If such veteran in need of aid and attendance is also in need of a higher level of care by a qualified health care specialist \$ 2,757
- (s) Disability rated as total, plus additional disability independently ratable at 60 percent or over, or permanently housebound \$ 2,766
- (t) Repealed by Public Law 99-576, October 18, 1986.

An annual clothing allowance of \$662 is paid each August to veterans with service-connected disabilities which require use of crutches, canes, wheelchairs, or other devices or appliances which wear the clothing. Payment is automatic each year to those whose eligibility is already established, while others must apply to VA.

Veterans rated 30% or more because of service-connected disease or injury are entitled to additional compensation for dependents. The following chart indicates the amount of additional compensation payable to such veterans who are rated 100% disabled. If a veteran is rated 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80 or 90 percent, dependency allowances are payable in an amount bearing the same ratio to the amount specified below as the degree of disability bears to total disability. For example, a veteran who is rated 50% disabled receives 50% of the amounts shown for the correct number of his dependents.

EXAMPLE: A veteran is rated 50% disabled, and has a wife and one child. The total additional allowance for a wife and one child for the 100% veteran is \$240 per month. Our veteran is rated 50%, thus he is entitled to additional allowance of \$120 per month. This same veteran, if rated 30% disabled would receive additional dependents allowance of \$72 (30% of \$240) per month.

<i>Dependents</i>	<i>Monthly Amount</i>
Spouse	\$ 139
Spouse, 1 child	240
Spouse, 2 children	310
Spouse, 3 children	380
<i>(plus \$70 for each child in excess of 3)</i>	
1 child	\$ 94
2 children	164
3 children	234
<i>(plus \$70 for each child in excess of 3)</i>	
Each dependent parent	\$ 112
Spouse of veteran, in nursing home or in need of aid and attendance allowance	126
School child age 18 to 23	222

DEATH COMPENSATION

Death Compensation may be paid to widows, widowers, children and dependent parents of servicemen or veterans, whose service-connected deaths occurred prior to January 1, 1957. The monthly payment for a widow or widower is \$87; for a child, \$67; and \$40 each for two eligible parents, or \$75 if only one parent is entitled.

When a widow or widower is receiving benefits, and is shown to be eligible for Aid and Attendance Allowance, the amount of \$79 will be added to monthly payment. Likewise, \$79 a month will be added to the payment of a parent who is eligible for Aid and Attendance Allowance.

DEPENDENCY & INDEMNITY COMPENSATION

Current laws provide for payment of dependency and indemnity compensation to the widows and children of deceased servicemen and veterans whose deaths are shown to be service-connected. The dependency and indemnity compensation program came into effect on January 1, 1957.

WIDOW/ER - DIC (Grandfathered)

The following chart indicates the monthly payment of dependency and indemnity compensation for a widow/er of a deceased servicemember or veteran. It will be noted that the monthly payment is based upon the rank and pay grade of the veteran or serviceman. These rates were effective December 1, 2006.

<i>Pay Grade</i>	<i>Monthly Rate</i>	<i>Pay Grade</i>	<i>Monthly Rate</i>
E-1 - E-6	\$ 1,067	O-2	\$ 1,165
E-7	1,104	O-3	1,246
E-8	1,165	O-4	1,319
E-9	1,215	O-5	1,452
E-9 Special	1,312	O-6	1,637
W-1	1,128	O-7	1,768
W-2	1,172	O-8	1,941
W-3	1,207	O-9	2,076
W-4	1,276	O-10	2,276
O-1	1,128	O-10 Special	2,443

Payments being made to a widow will be increased by \$265 per month for each eligible child in her custody. Payments to the widow will be increased by \$265 per month if she is shown to be a patient in a nursing home or is so helpless as to require the aid and attendance of another person.

VA can also pay certain widows a Housebound Allowance of \$126 per month. Eligible for the allowance are those who are, by reason of disabilities, permanently confined to their homes or the immediate premises, but are not entitled to the Aid and Attendance Allowance.

WIDOW/ER - DIC (1992)

Effective January 1, 1993, major provisions of HR 5008, DIC Reform Act of 1992, went into effect. New rates effective December 1, 2006:

- ★ Payments of the Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC) will be made to all surviving spouses at a base monthly rate of \$1,067 per month.
- ★ Surviving spouses of veterans rated totally disabled as a result of their service-connected disabilities for a continuous period of at least eight years preceding death will receive an additional \$228 per month.
- ★ Surviving spouses of veterans who die before January 1, 1993, will be paid DIC under the old system or the new formula, whichever would provide greater benefits.
- ★ The additional amount of DIC payable for each dependent child was increased to \$100 monthly, effective January 1, 1993; to \$150 per month, effective October 1, 1993; \$200 per month, effective October 1, 1994; \$205 per month, effective December 1, 1995; \$211 per month, effective December 1, 1996; \$215 per month, effective December 1, 1997; \$217 per month, effective December 1, 1998; \$222 per month, effective December 1, 1999; \$229 per month effective December 1, 2000; \$234 per month effective December 1, 2001; \$237 per month effective December 1, 2002; \$241 per month effective December 1, 2003; \$247 per month effective December 1, 2004; \$257 per month, effective December 1, 2005; and \$265 per month, effective December 1, 2006.
- ★ Remarried spouses whose eligibility for reinstatement of DIC or pension benefits upon termination of marriage which was terminated by the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1990 (OBRA) will receive restored eligibility for such benefits if, prior to November 1, 1990, a legal action had commenced to terminate the disqualifying marriage and that marriage was formally terminated as a result of such legal action.

CHILDREN - DIC

Following are amounts of Dependency and Indemnity Compensation payable to or for eligible children, effective December 1, 2006:

Children under age 18 - no widow

1 Child	\$ 452		
2 Children	649	-	Divided Equally
3 Children	846	-	Divided Equally
4 Children	1,008	-	Divided Equally
5 Children	1,170	-	Divided Equally
6 Children	1,332	-	Divided Equally
7 Children	1,494	-	Divided Equally
8 Children	1,656	-	Divided Equally
9 Children	1,818	-	Divided Equally

DIC benefits are paid in varying amounts for children who are over the age of 18 years and are either attending an approved school or are shown to be disabled and incapable of self-support. In cases involving disability, it must be shown that the child became permanently disabled and incapable of self-support prior to reaching his or her 18th birthday.

Following are instances in which DIC benefits may be paid to or for children who are over 18 years of age. Also shown are the monthly amounts of DIC payable in such cases:

1. When there is a child, age 18 years or older and entitled to dependency and indemnity compensation, and became permanently and totally disabled prior to age 18, the DIC paid to or for such child will be increased by \$265 per month.
2. When there is a surviving spouse who is entitled to dependency and indemnity compensation, and has a child 18 years or older who became permanently and totally disabled prior to age 18, the DIC paid to the spouse will be increased by \$452 per month because of such disabled child.
3. When there is a surviving spouse who is entitled to dependency and indemnity compensation, and has a child who is over 18 but not more than 23 years, and such child is pursuing a course of

education in an approved school, such child shall be paid \$265 per month. This shall be in addition to the DIC payable to the spouse.

4. Spina Bifida Benefits:

- a. Level I \$ 263
- b. Level II \$ 909
- c. Level III \$ 1,550

5. Children of women Vietnam veterans born with certain birth defects:

- a. Level I \$ 120
- b. Level II \$ 263
- c. Level III \$ 909
- d. Level IV \$ 1,550

SECTION II

IMPROVED DISABILITY PENSION (PL 95-588)

MAXIMUM ANNUAL RATES

<i>Payees</i>	<i>Effective 12-01-2005</i>	<i>Effective 12-01-2006</i>
Veteran with no dependents	\$10,579	\$ 10,929
Veteran with 1 dependent	13,855	14,313
Veteran - A & A - no dependents	17,651	18,234
Veteran - A & A - 1 dependent	20,924	21,615
Veteran - housebound - no dependents	12,929	13,356
Veteran - housebound - 1 dependent	16,205	16,740
*For each additional child - add	1,806	1,866
For veterans of WWI & Mexican Border - add	2,400	2,480

Two Veterans Married to One Another-Combined Income:

Both receiving under PL 95-588	\$ 13,855	\$ 14,313
Both receiving, 1 is housebound	16,205	16,740
Both receiving, both housebound	18,555	19,168
Both receiving, 1 is A & A	20,924	21,615
One is A & A, 1 is housebound	23,270	24,038
Both receiving, both A & A	27,261	28,161
*For each additional child - add	1,806	1,866
For veterans of WWI & Mexican Border - add	2,400	2,480

IMPROVED DEATH PENSION (PL 95-588)

MAXIMUM ANNUAL RATES

<i>Payee</i>	<i>Effective 12-01-2005</i>	<i>Effective 12-01-2006</i>
Spouse with no dependents	\$ 7,094	\$ 7,329
Spouse with 1 dependent child	9,287	9,594
Spouse - housebound - no children	8,670	8,957
Spouse - housebound - 1 child	10,860	11,219
Spouse - A & A - no children	11,340	11,715
Spouse - A & A - 1 child	13,529	13,976
*For each additional child - add	1,806	1,866

For Children Only - No Widow:

1 child	\$ 1,806	1,866
2 children - divided equally	3,612	3,732
3 children - divided equally	5,418	5,598
4 children - divided equally*	7,224	7,464
*For each additional child - add	1,806	1,866

DEPENDENCY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION FOR DEPENDENT PARENTS OF DECEASED VETERANS

Monthly Rates Effective December 1, 2005

- (a) *One Parent:* If there is only one parent, the monthly rate of DIC paid will be \$507 if there is no countable income. If there is other income, the rate of \$507 will be reduced according to the following formula:

<i>\$507 monthly rate is reduced by</i>	<i>For each \$1 of annual income Which is More Than</i>	<i>But Not More Than</i>
\$ 0.00	-0-	\$ 800
.08	\$ 900	7,074

For income \$7,075 to \$16,175, rate is \$5.00 per month. No DIC is payable if annual income exceeds \$16,175. If A & A, add \$274.

- (b) *One Parent Who Has Remarried:* If there is only one parent, and the parent has remarried and is living with spouse, DIC will be paid under paragraph (a) above, or paragraph (d) below, whichever will result in the greater benefit. In the case of remarriage, the total combined income of parent and parent's spouse will be counted in determining entitlement.
- (c) *Two Parents Not Living Together:* The rates in this paragraph apply when there are 2 parents who are not living together, or an unremarried parent when both parents are living and other parent has remarried. The monthly rate of \$367 will be reduced according to the following formula:

<i>\$367 monthly rate is reduced</i>	<i>For each \$1 of annual income Which is More Than</i>	<i>But Not More Than</i>
\$.00	-0-	\$ 800
.06	\$ 800	900
.07	900	1,100
.08	1,100	5,374

For income \$5,375 to \$12,034 rate is \$5.00 per month. No DIC is payable if annual income exceeds \$12,034.

- (d) *Two Parents Living Together or Remarried Parent Living With Spouse:* The rates in this paragraph apply to (1) each parent living with another parent, and (2) each remarried parent, when both parents are alive. The monthly rate of DIC to such parents will be \$344 reduced on the basis of combined annual income of the two parents living together or the remarried parent and spouse, as computed on the following formula:

	<i>For each \$1 of combined income</i>	
<i>\$344 monthly rate is reduced</i>	<i>Which is More Than</i>	<i>But Not More Than</i>
\$.00	-0-	\$ 1,000
.03	\$ 1,000	1,500
.04	1,500	1,900
.05	1,900	2,400
.06	2,400	2,900
.07	2,900	3,200
.08	3,200	6,099

For income \$6,100 to \$16,176, rate is \$5.00 per month. No DIC is payable if combined annual income exceeds \$16,176.

Aid and Attendance: The monthly rate of DIC payable to a parent will be increased by \$274 if such parent is (1) a patient in a nursing home, or (2) helpless or blind, or so nearly helpless as to need or require the regular aid and attendance of another person.

Minimum Rate: The monthly rate of DIC payable to any parent shall not be less than \$5.00.

DEPENDENCY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION FOR DEPENDENT PARENTS OF DECEASED VETERANS

Monthly Rates Effective December 1, 2006

- (a) **One Parent:** If there is only one parent, the monthly rate of DIC paid will be \$524 if there is no countable income. If there is other income, the rate of \$524 will be reduced according to the following formula:

<i>\$524 monthly rate is reduced by</i>	<i>For each \$1 of annual income</i>	
	<i>Which is More Than</i>	<i>But Not More Than</i>
\$ 0.00	-0-	\$ 800
.08	\$ 900	7,286

For income \$7,287 to \$16,710, rate is \$5.00 per month. No DIC is payable if annual income exceeds \$16,710. If A & A, add \$284.

- (b) **One Parent Who Has Remarried:** If there is only one parent, and the parent has remarried and is living with spouse, DIC will be paid under paragraph (a) above, or paragraph (d) below, whichever will result in the greater benefit. In the case of remarriage, the total combined income of parent and parent's spouse will be counted in determining entitlement.
- (c) **Two Parents Not Living Together:** The rates in this paragraph apply when there are 2 parents who are not living together, or an unremarried parent when both parents are living and other parent has remarried. The monthly rate of \$380 will be reduced according to the following formula:

<i>\$380 monthly rate is reduced</i>	<i>For each \$1 of annual income</i>	
	<i>Which is More Than</i>	<i>But Not More Than</i>
\$.00	-0-	\$ 800
.06	\$ 800	900
.07	900	1,100
.08	1,100	5,537

For income \$5,538 to \$12,432 rate is \$5.00 per month. No DIC is payable if annual income exceeds \$12,432.

- (d) *Two Parents Living Together or Remarried Parent Living With Spouse:* The rates in this paragraph apply to (1) each parent living with another parent, and (2) each remarried parent, when both parents are alive. The monthly rate of DIC to such parents will be \$356 reduced on the basis of combined annual income of the two parents living together or the remarried parent and spouse, as computed on the following formula:

	<i>For each \$1 of combined income</i>	
<i>\$356 monthly rate is reduced</i>	<i>Which is More Than</i>	<i>But Not More Than</i>
\$.00	-0-	\$ 1,000
.03	\$ 1,000	1,500
.04	1,500	1,900
.05	1,900	2,400
.06	2,400	2,900
.07	2,900	3,200
.08	3,200	6,249

For income \$6,250 to \$16,710, rate is \$5.00 per month. No DIC is payable if combined annual income exceeds \$16,710.

Aid and Attendance: The monthly rate of DIC payable to a parent will be increased by \$284 if such parent is (1) a patient in a nursing home, or (2) helpless or blind, or so nearly helpless as to need or require the regular aid and attendance of another person.

Minimum Rate: The monthly rate of DIC payable to any parent shall not be less than \$5.00.

SECTION 306 DISABILITY PENSION
SAW, Mexican Border Period, WWI, WWII,
Korean War and Vietnam Era

Effective 12-01-2005

Veteran Only:

The rate which was payable on December 31, 1978, may be continued if the veteran's annual income for VA pension purposes is not more than \$12,034.

Veteran With Dependents:

The rate payable on December 31, 1978, may be continued if the income for VA pension purposes is not more than \$16,176.

Amount of spouse's income exclusion is \$3,840

NOTE: Veterans attaining age 78 on or after January 1, 1979, are
NOT entitled to 25% increase in pension

Effective 12-01-2006

Veteran Only:

The rate which was payable on December 31, 1978, may be continued if the veteran's annual income for VA pension purposes is not more than \$12,432.

Veteran With Dependents:

The rate payable on December 31, 1978, may be continued if the income for VA pension purposes is not more than \$16,710.

Amount of spouse's income exclusion is \$3,967

NOTE: Veterans attaining age 78 on or after January 1, 1979, are
NOT entitled to 25% increase in pension.

SECTION 306 DEATH PENSION
SAW, Mexican Border Period, WWI, WWII,
Korean War and Vietnam Era

Effective 12-01-2005

Widow/er Only:

The rate payable on December 31, 1978, will be continued if the widow's income for VA pension purposes is not more than \$12,034

Children Only:

The rate payable to a child or children as of December 31, 1978, will continue if the child's income for VA purposes is not more than \$9,838

Widow/er With Children:

The rate payable on December 31, 1978, will continue if the widow/er's income for VA purposes is not more than \$16,176.

NOTE: On and after January 1, 1979, VA is not allowed to award Aid and Attendance Allowance to a widow whose pension benefits are being paid under Section 306. Those already eligible for the Aid and Attendance Allowance prior to January 1, 1979, will continue to receive the monthly amount which was payable on December 31, 1978. If a widow under Section 306 pension now becomes in need of Aid and Attendance, the extra allowance may be paid by VA only if she elects to change to the new pension law, Public Law 95-588.

SECTION 306 DEATH PENSION
SAW, Mexican Border Period, WWI, WWII,
Korean War and Vietnam Era

Effective 12-01-2006

Widow/er Only:

The rate payable on December 31, 1978, will be continued if the widow's income for VA pension purposes is not more than \$12,432

Children Only:

The rate payable to a child or children as of December 31, 1978, will continue if the child's income for VA purposes is not more than \$10,163

Widow/er With Children:

The rate payable on December 31, 1978, will continue if the widow/er's income for VA purposes is not more than \$16,710.

NOTE: On and after January 1, 1979, VA is not allowed to award Aid and Attendance Allowance to a widow whose pension benefits are being paid under Section 306. Those already eligible for the Aid and Attendance Allowance prior to January 1, 1979, will continue to receive the monthly amount which was payable on December 31, 1978. If a widow under Section 306 pension now becomes in need of Aid and Attendance, the extra allowance may be paid by VA only if she elects to change to the new pension law, Public Law 95-588.



PROTECTED DISABILITY PENSION
WWI, WWII and
Korean War Veterans

Effective 12-01-2005

Veteran Only:

Monthly payments in effect on December 31, 1978, will continue if annual income for VA pension purposes is not more than \$10,535. Payments are: \$78.75 regular pension; \$100 when veteran is entitled to Housebound benefits; \$135.45 when veteran is entitled to Aid and Attendance Allowance.

Veteran With Dependents:

Monthly payment in effect on December 31, 1978, will continue if annual income for VA pension purposes is not more than \$15,188. Payments are same as for veteran with no dependents.

Effective 12-01-2006

Veteran Only:

Monthly payments in effect on December 31, 1978, will continue if annual income for VA pension purposes is not more than \$10,883. Payments are: \$78.75 regular pension; \$100 when veteran is entitled to Housebound benefits; \$135.45 when veteran is entitled to Aid and Attendance Allowance.

Veteran With Dependents:

Monthly payment in effect on December 31, 1978, will continue if annual income for VA pension purposes is not more than \$15,690. Payments are same as for veteran with no dependents.

PROTECTED DEATH PENSION
WWI, WWII and Korean War
Widows and Children

Effective 12-01-2005

Widow Only:

Monthly payments of \$50.40 will be made to widow if her annual income is not more than \$10,535. Payments are \$100.40 when widow is entitled to Aid and Attendance Allowance.

Widow With Child or Children:

Monthly payments in effect December 31, 1978, will continue if widow's annual income is not more than \$15,188 if she has a child or children. Monthly payments are \$63 for widow and 1 child, plus \$7.56 for each additional child. An additional \$50 per month is paid if widow is entitled to Aid and Attendance Allowance.

Child or Children Only - No Widow:

If there is no widow entitled, each eligible child whose annual income is not more than \$10,535, will receive VA pension. Payment for 1 child is \$27.30 per month; 2 children \$40.95 divided equally; 3 children \$54.60 per month divided equally; plus \$7.56 for each additional child.

NOTE: Effective January 1, 1979, no new determinations of Aid and Attendance Allowance may be made for protected law widows. Those already entitled to A & A on December 31, 1978, will continue to receive A & A.

PROTECTED DEATH PENSION
WWI, WWII and Korean War
Widows and Children

Effective 12-01-2006

Widow Only:

Monthly payments of \$50.40 will be made to widow if her annual income is not more than \$10,883. Payments are \$100.40 when widow is entitled to Aid and Attendance Allowance.

Widow With Child or Children:

Monthly payments in effect December 31, 1978, will continue if widow's annual income is not more than \$15,690 if she has a child or children. Monthly payments are \$63 for widow and 1 child, plus \$7.56 for each additional child. An additional \$50 per month is paid if widow is entitled to Aid and Attendance Allowance.

Child or Children Only - No Widow:

If there is no widow entitled, each eligible child whose annual income is not more than \$10,883, will receive VA pension. Payment for 1 child is \$27.30 per month; 2 children \$40.95 divided equally; 3 children \$54.60 per month divided equally; plus \$7.56 for each additional child.

NOTE: Effective January 1, 1979, no new determinations of Aid and Attendance Allowance may be made for protected law widows. Those already entitled to A & A on December 31, 1978, will continue to receive A & A.

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