

APPLICATION FOR REIMBURSEMENT.

W. O. Davis No. 1193018.

Benjamin Welch
Deceased Pensioner.

James E. Jackson
Claimant.

AN ACT to amend section forty-seven hundred and forty-six of the Revised Statutes of the United States. (30 Stat. L., 718.)

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

"That every person who knowingly or willfully makes or aids, or assists in the making, or in any wise procures the making or presentation of any false or fraudulent affidavit, declaration, certificate, voucher, or paper or writing purporting to be such, concerning any claim for pension or payment thereof, or pertaining to any other matter within the jurisdiction of the Commissioner of Pensions or of the Secretary of the Interior, or who knowingly or willfully makes or causes to be made, or aids or assists in the making, or presents or causes to be presented at any pension agency any power of attorney or other paper required as a voucher in drawing a pension, which paper bears a date subsequent to that upon which it was actually signed or acknowledged by the pensioner, and every person before whom any declaration, affidavit, voucher, or other paper or writing to be used in aid of the presentation of any claim for pension or bounty land or payment thereon purports to have been executed who shall knowingly certify that the declarant, affiant, or witness named in such declaration, affidavit, voucher, or other paper or writing personally appeared before him and was sworn thereto, or acknowledged the execution thereof, when, in fact, such declarant, affiant, or witness did not personally appear before him or was not sworn thereto, or did not acknowledge the execution thereof, shall be punished by a fine not exceeding five hundred dollars, or by imprisonment for a term of not more than five years."

Approved July 1, 1898.

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The Act March 2, 1895 (28 Stat. L., 964), provides—

That from and after the twenty-eighth day of September, eighteen hundred and ninety-two, the accrued pension to the date of the death of any pensioner, or of any person entitled to a pension having an application therefor pending, and whether a certificate therefor shall issue prior or subsequent to the death of such person, shall, in the case of a person pensioned, or applying for pension, on account of his disabilities or service, be paid, first, to his widow; second, if there is no widow, to his child or children under the age of sixteen years at his death; third, in a case of a widow, to her minor children under the age of sixteen years at her death. Such accrued pension shall not be considered a part of the assets of the estate of such deceased person nor be liable for the payment of the debts of said estate in any case whatsoever, but shall inure to the sole and exclusive benefit of the widow or children. And if no widow or child survive such pensioner, and in the case of his last surviving child who was such minor at his death, and in case of a dependent mother, father, sister, or brother, no payment whatsoever of their accrued pension shall be made or allowed except so much as may be necessary to reimburse the person who bore the expense of their last sickness and burial, if they did not leave sufficient assets to meet such expense.

The Act March 3, 1905 (33 Stat. L., 1169), provides—

* * * and no part of any accrued pension shall hereafter be used to reimburse any State, county, or municipal corporation for expenses incurred by such State, county, or municipal corporation under State law for expenses of the last sickness or burial of a deceased pensioner.

INSTRUCTIONS.

1. Accrued pension is not a part of the assets of the estate of a deceased pensioner, nor liable for the payment of the debts of such pensioner.
2. Accrued pension is not payable as reimbursement in the case of a person pensioned on account of service if a widow or minor child under sixteen years of age survive.
3. Accrued pension is not payable as reimbursement in the case of any pensioner who left sufficient assets to meet the expense of last sickness and burial.
4. Application for reimbursement should be accompanied by the following evidence:
 - (a) Bills of all expenses of last sickness and burial. If paid by the claimant for reimbursement the bills must be properly receipted to said claimant; but if paid in part only the creditor should state by whom paid or from what source such payment was received. If unpaid, the parties to whom said bills are due should note on each bill, over their signatures, that they hold the claimant responsible for the payment. If the bill be for medical treatment it must show the dates of visits or treatment and the charge for each. A bill for nursing and care must show the dates between which the services were rendered, and the rate per day or week. The bill of the undertaker must be itemized, and show the date on which the services were rendered.
 - Each bill must show that the service was rendered for the pensioner on account of whom reimbursement is claimed. All claims should be presented in the name of one person.
 - Bills which are forwarded become a part of the records of the Bureau of Pensions and can not be returned. Claimants should therefore secure duplicates of such bills if needed by them.
 - (b) The pension certificate which was issued in the name of the pensioner. If such certificate is not in possession of the claimant a statement showing its whereabouts or final disposition should be made.
5. A careful compliance with these instructions will save much unnecessary delay in the settlement of the claim presented.

NOTICE.

The only sum available for payment of a claim presented on this blank is the pension unpaid at the date of the pensioner's death.

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