

## UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE 4000 DEFENSE PENTAGON WASHINGTON, DC 20301-4000

SFP 1 5 2011

The Honorable Ron Wyden United States Senate Washington, DC 20510-3703

Dear Senator Wyden:

Thank you for your September 13 letter regarding the status of DoD's effort in clarifying our policy concerning the Transitional Assistance Management Program (TAMP). Since we met on April 8, the Department worked diligently to review the policy and procedures of assigning TAMP benefits to eligible Reserve Component members. Following that review which completed at the end of August, I directed the Secretaries of the Military Departments to delay the start date of TAMP benefits until the extended period of uninterrupted active duty is completed. That memo is attached for your reference. Our change in procedure is consistent with the Senate Armed Services Committee's proposed bill, S. 1253, section 712.

The Department shares your concern regarding our injured Service members. We have a deep moral commitment to our injured Service members to ensure they receive the proper medical care and are either declared fit for duty or have been properly processed through our disability evaluation system and medically retired or separated. I want to personally assure you that all Service members assigned to Warrior Transition Battalions or Community Based Warrior Transition Battalions are not released until they receive the medical care they deserve.

Thank you for your concern and advocacy for the members of our Reserve components. We appreciate your interest and continued support of our Service members and their families.

Sincerely, Chiffed h. Kife

Clifford L. Stanley



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SEP 15 ....

PERSONNEL AND READINESS

> MEMORANDUM FOR: SECRETARIES OF THE MILITARY DEPARTMENTS CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF COMMANDANT OF THE COAST GUARD CHIEF, NATIONAL GUARD BUREAU ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR HEALTH AFFAIRS ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR RESERVE AFFAIRS DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE HUMAN RESOURCES ACTIVITY DIRECTOR, TRICARE MANAGEMENT ACTIVITY

## SUBJECT: Clarification of Procedures to Identify Eligibility for Assignment of Transition Assistance Management Program (TAMP) Health Benefits

This memorandum clarifies procedures for determining the start date of transitional health care benefits for Reserve Component Service members under the TAMP pursuant to section 1145(a)(2)(B) of title 10, United States Code (U.S.C.). For a Reserve Component (RC) Service member, eligibility for transitional health care is based on completion of active duty for more than 30 days, in support of contingency operations pursuant to section 101(a)(13)(B) of title 10 U.S.C. TAMP eligibility begins upon release or separation from this qualifying active duty service and remains in effect for 180 consecutive days. Any subsequent active duty which includes health care eligibility that begins after a break in service from this TAMP-qualifying active duty service, during the 180 day period of transition assistance, will run concurrently with the 180-day period of transition assistance.

Effective with the date of this memorandum, if the qualifying active duty period that is in support of a named contingency operation for authorizing transitional health care is followed by any other active duty service without a break in service, then the eligibility for transitional health care will begin at the separation or release from the composite period of active duty service. Each period of active duty service in the composite period of active duty shall be considered for transitional health care eligibility. All transitional health care eligibility from qualifying active duty service for named contingency operations will begin concurrently for 180 consecutive days upon release or separation from this composite period of active duty service. Once the eligibility for transitional health care begins, any active duty service that authorizes health care eligibility will do so concurrently with TAMP; TAMP will continue for the 180-day period.

"RC Active Service Transaction File, DD-RA(D)2170," of DoD Manual 7730.54-M, Volume 1, "Reserve Components Common Personnel Data Systems (RCCPDS): Reporting Procedures," May 27, 2011.

An accurate and complete daily submission of personnel data for RC Service members performing active service required by Enclosure 8 is the keystone for ensuring TAMP eligibility. These data, reported to the RCCPDS, will be used for the timely assignment of TAMP health benefits maintained by the Defense Manpower Data Center in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System.

Clifford L. Stanley

cc:

Director, DMDC Director, Army National Guard Chief, Army Reserve Chief of Navy Reserve Commander, Marine Forces Reserve Director, Air National Guard Chief, Air Force Reserve Director for Reserve and Training, Coast Guard Reserve