

SEC. 602. INCREASE IN MAXIMUM MONTHLY AMOUNT OF SUPPLEMENTAL SUBSISTENCE ALLOWANCE FOR LOW-INCOME MEMBERS WITH DEPENDENTS.

(a) Increase in Maximum Monthly Amount- Section 402a(a) of title 37, United States Code, is amended--

(1) in paragraph (2), by striking ` \$500' and inserting ` \$1,100'; and

(2) in paragraph (3)(B), by striking ` \$500' and inserting ` \$1,100'.

(b) Effective Date- The amendments made by subsection (a) shall take effect on October 1, 2009, and shall apply with respect to monthly supplemental subsistence allowances for low-income members with dependents payable on or after that date.

(c) Report on Elimination of Reliance on Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program To Meet Nutritional Needs of Members of the Armed Forces and Their Dependents-

(1) IN GENERAL- Not later than September 1, 2010, the Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the Secretary of Agriculture, shall submit to the congressional defense committees a report setting forth a plan for actions to eliminate the need for members of the Armed Forces and their dependents to rely on the supplemental nutrition assistance program under the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2011 et seq.) for their monthly nutritional needs.

(2) ELEMENTS- The plan required by paragraph (1) shall address the following:

(A) An appropriate amount or amounts for the monthly supplemental subsistence allowance for low-income members with dependents payable under section 402a of title 37, United States Code.

(B) Such modifications, if any, to the eligibility requirements for the monthly supplemental subsistence allowance, including limitations on the maximum size of the household of a member for purposes of eligibility for the allowance, as the Secretary of Defense considers appropriate.

(C) The advisability of requiring members of the Armed Forces to apply for the monthly supplemental subsistence allowance before seeking assistance under the supplemental nutrition assistance program and to notify their commanding officer if they are accepted for participation in the supplemental nutrition assistance program.

(D) A method for accurately determining the total number of members of the Armed Forces who are participating in the supplemental nutrition assistance program.

(E) Such other matters as the Secretary of Defense considers appropriate.