NDAA 2023 Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP) Open Season

Congress provided for a Survivor Benefit Plan Open Season in the 2023 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA), signed by the President on December 23, 2022

The SBP Open Season begins on December 23, 2022 and ends on January 1, 2024.

The SBP Open Season allows for **retirees receiving retired pay, eligible members, or former members awaiting retired pay** who are **currently NOT enrolled** in SBP or RCSBP (Reserve Component Survivor Benefit Plan) to **enroll**. For a member who enrolls during the SBP Open Season, the law generally requires that the member will be responsible to pay retroactive SBP premium costs that would have been paid if the member had enrolled at retirement (or enrolled at another earlier date, depending on the member's family circumstances).

The SBP Open Season also allows eligible members and former members who are **currently enrolled** in either SBP or RCSBP to **permanently discontinue** their SBP coverage. The law generally requires the covered beneficiaries to concur **in writing** with the election to discontinue. Previously paid premiums will not be refunded.

The Department of Defense is working to prepare the forms, policies, and processes required to facilitate this SBP Open Season.

In the meantime, once the law is publicly available, you may review it by visiting web sites such as GovInfo at <u>https://www.govinfo.gov/</u> (which provides free public access to official publications from all three branches of the Federal Government).

Retirees can help by ensuring their information is up to date in <u>myPay</u>. If you are not yet using myPay or need to reactivate your account, start with our "New to myPay?" guide at **https://dvidshub.net/r/vbx6su**.