In early August 2010, the Department of Defense announced that thousands of military men and women are still owed back pay for an extension of their service obligation under Stop Loss.

Last year, Congress passed the *Fiscal Year 2009 War Supplemental Appropriations Act*. This legislation established Retroactive Stop Loss Special Pay (RSLSP), which provides funds for each month or partial month served in Stop Loss status. Service members, veterans, and beneficiaries of service members -- whose service was involuntarily extended under Stop Loss from September 11, 2001 to September 30, 2009 -- are eligible for this special pay.

Although the December 3, 2010 deadline is rapidly approaching, a significant portion of these funds remain unclaimed. Out of 100,000 eligible individuals, only an estimated 30,000 claims have been paid so far.

Servicemembers who served under Stop Loss must submit a claim to receive the special pay.

Click here to learn more.

According to a recent article in *USA Today*, the Department of Defense will eliminate the Stop Loss program by March 2011. Since 2001, over 140,000 troops served under Stop Loss. (All about 20,000 of those troops were Army soldiers.) This number has been reduced to about 4,000. Click <u>here</u> to learn more.