

Social Security Administration

§410.670b

in §410.610), may petition for an extension of time for filing a request for hearing or review or for commencing a civil action in a district court of the United States, although the time for filing such request or commencing such action (see §§410.631 and 410.661 and section 205(g) of the Social Security Act as incorporated by section 413(b) of the Act), has passed. If an extension of the time fixed by §410.631 for requesting a hearing before an Administrative Law Judge is sought, the petition may be filed with an Administrative Law Judge. In any other case, the petition shall be filed with the Appeals Council. The petition shall be in writing and shall state the reasons why the request or action was not filed within the required time. For good cause shown, an Administrative Law Judge or the Appeals Council, as the case may be, may extend the time for filing such request or action.

(b) *Where civil action commenced against wrong defendant.* If a party to a decision of the Appeals Council, or to a decision of the Administrative Law Judge where the request for review of such decision is denied (see §410.662), timely commences a civil action in a district court as provided by section 205(g) of the Social Security Act as incorporated by section 413(b) of the Act, but names as defendant the United States or any agency, officer, or employee thereof instead of the Commissioner either by name or by official title, and causes process to be served in such action as required by the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, the Administration shall mail notice to such party that he has named the incorrect defendant in such action; and the time within which such party may commence the civil action pursuant to section 205(g) of the Social Security Act against the Commissioner shall be deemed to be extended to and including the 60th day following the date of mailing of such notice.

[37 FR 20653, Sept. 30, 1972, as amended at 62 FR 38453, July 18, 1997]

§410.670 Review by Appeals Council.

Where an Administrative Law Judge has determined the matter of extending the time for filing such request (whether he has allowed or denied the

request for such extension), the Appeals Council on its own motion may review such determination and either affirm or reverse it. In connection with this review, the Appeals Council may consider whatever additional evidence relevant to this request a party may wish to present.

§410.670a Judicial review.

A civil action may be commenced in a district court of the United States with respect to a decision of the Appeals Council, or to a decision of the Administrative Law Judge (formerly called *hearing examiner*) where the request for review of such decision is denied by the Appeals Council, as provided in section 205 (g) and (h) of the Social Security Act, as incorporated by section 413(b) of the Act.

[37 FR 20653, Sept. 30, 1972]

§410.670b Interim provision for the adjudication of certain claims filed prior to May 19, 1972.

(a) *General.* Section 6 of the Black Lung Benefits Act of 1972 added a section 431 to title IV of the Federal Coal Mine Health and Safety Act of 1969 which requires the Commissioner to review, under the terms of the 1972 amendments, all claims for benefits which were filed prior to May 19, 1972 (the date of enactment of the 1972 amendments), and which were either pending before the Administration on that date, or which had been previously disallowed. Therefore, notwithstanding any other provision of this subpart, and in keeping with the objective of providing for effective and expeditious processing of the large backlog of claims that have to be reexamined under the 1972 amendments, all such claims for benefits will be adjudicated under the terms of the amended Act in accordance with this section.

(b) *Cases remanded by the Federal courts.* (1) Those claims described in paragraph (a) of this section which are remanded to the Commissioner by the Federal courts are reviewed in the Bureau of Hearings and Appeals.

(2) A decision will be rendered by an Administrative Law Judge (formerly called *hearing examiner*) in all such claims which can be allowed under the 1972 amendments on the evidence then