

PUBLIC LAWS
ENACTED DURING THE
THIRD SESSION OF THE SEVENTY-SIXTH CONGRESS
OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Begun and held at the City of Washington on Wednesday, January 3, 1940, and terminated on Friday, January 3, 1941

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT, President; JOHN N. GARNER, Vice President; KEY PITTMAN,¹ President of the Senate *pro tempore*; MORRIS SHEPPARD, Acting President of the Senate *pro tempore*, July 25, 1940; ALBEN W. BARKLEY, Acting President of the Senate *pro tempore*, August 31–September 5, 1940; WILLIAM H. KING, Acting President of the Senate *pro tempore*, September 18, October 14–November 18, and elected President of the Senate *pro tempore* November 19, 1940; KENNETH MCKELLAR, Acting President of the Senate *pro tempore*, October 9–13, 1940; WILLIAM B. BANKHEAD,² Speaker of the House of Representatives; SAM RAYBURN, Speaker of the House of Representatives *pro tempore*, February 7–19, April 2–May 6, September 11–15, and elected Speaker of the House of Representatives September 16, 1940; JOHN W. MCCORMACK, Speaker of the House of Representatives *pro tempore*, December 5–18, 1940; WILLIAM P. COLE, Jr., Speaker of the House of Representatives *pro tempore*, December 19, 1940–January 2, 1941.

[CHAPTER 1]

AN ACT

To provide for the protection of witnesses appearing before any department, independent establishment, or other agency of the United States, or the Congress of the United States.

January 13, 1940
[H. R. 6832]
[Public, No. 401]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Criminal Code of the United States be amended by inserting therein a new section immediately following section 135 (U. S. C., title 18, sec. 241) to be known as section 135 (a) (U. S. C., title 18, sec. 241 (a)) and reading as follows:

Criminal Code,
amendment.

“SEC. 135. (a) That whoever corruptly, or by threats or force, or by any threatening letter or communication, shall endeavor to influence, intimidate, or impede any witness in any proceeding pending before any department, independent establishment, board, commission, or other agency of the United States, or in connection with any inquiry or investigation being had by either House, or any committee of either House, or any joint committee of the Congress of the United States, or who corruptly or by threats or force, or by any threatening letter or communication shall influence, obstruct, or impede, or endeavor to influence, obstruct, or impede the due and proper administration of the law under which such proceeding is being had before such department, independent establishment, board, commission, or other agency of the United States, or the due and proper exercise of the power of inquiry under which such inquiry or investigation is being had by either House, or any committee of either House or any joint committee of the Congress of the United States shall be fined not more than \$1,000 or imprisoned not more than one year, or both.”

Witnesses before
governmental agencies or Congressional
committees.
Influencing, etc.

Obstruction of ad-
ministration of law.

Penalty.

Approved, January 13, 1940.

¹ [Died November 10, 1940, 12:35 a. m.]

² [Died September 13, 1940, 1:35 a. m.]

[CHAPTER 2]

AN ACT

January 17, 1940
[H. R. 884]
[Public, No. 402]

To add certain lands to the Siuslaw National Forest in the State of Oregon.

Siuslaw National
Forest, Oreg.
Lands added.

Description.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That, for the purpose of forest management and municipal watershed protection, the following-described lands, excepting such subdivisions as were revested in the ownership of the United States by the Act approved June 9, 1916 (39 Stat. 218), or now are parts of the unappropriated public domain, are hereby added and made a part of the Siuslaw National Forest in the State of Oregon subject to valid existing rights and all of the added lands owned by the United States shall hereafter be administered subject to all the laws and regulations governing the national forests: All of township 12 south, range 7 west; all of township 12 south, range 8 west; section 19, sections 29 to 32, inclusive, and sections 34 to 36, inclusive, in township 12 south, range 9 west; south half section 10, south half section 13, sections 14 and 15, sections 22 to 27, inclusive, and sections 34 to 36, inclusive, in township 12 south, range 10 west; sections 2 to 11, inclusive, sections 15 to 21, inclusive, and sections 30 and 31 in township 13 south, range 7 west; all of township 13 south, range 8 west; sections 1 to 5, inclusive, east half section 8, sections 9 and 10, north half section 11, sections 12 and 13, north half section 15, sections 16, 17, and 20, north half section 21 and sections 24 and 36 in township 13 south, range 9 west, all Willamette base and meridian.

Approved, January 17, 1940.

[CHAPTER 3]

AN ACT

January 17, 1940
[H. R. 8919]
[Public, No. 403]

To provide for the refunding of the bonds of municipal corporations and public-utility districts in the Territory of Alaska, to validate bonds which have heretofore been issued by a municipal corporation or any public-utility district in the Territory of Alaska, and for other purposes.

Alaska.
Provisions for re-
funding certain bond-
ed indebtedness, etc.

Refunding bonds,
use of proceeds.

Exchange for out-
standing bonds.

Payment of accrued
interest.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That whenever any municipal corporation or any public-utility district in the Territory of Alaska shall have outstanding any bonded indebtedness or bonds payable from the revenues from any municipal or public utility, it shall be lawful for said municipal corporation or public-utility district through its common council or board of directors, or other governing body, as the case may be, to issue its bonds and to sell such bonds and apply the proceeds of the sale in payment of the bonds for the payment of which such refunding bonds are issued, or to exchange same for such outstanding bonds constituting said indebtedness, or, as the case may be, for such outstanding bonds payable from the revenues of a municipal or public utility. Said refunding bonds may be exchanged privately for and in payment and discharge of any outstanding bonds of a municipal or public-utility district. Refunding bonds payable from the revenues of a municipal or public utility may be exchanged for a like or greater amount of outstanding bonds payable from the revenues of such municipal or public utility, and the principal amount of such refunding bonds may exceed the principal amount of such outstanding bonds to the extent necessary or advisable to fund interest in arrears or about to become due on such outstanding bonds. The holder or holders of any outstanding bonds need not pay accrued interest on the refunding bonds to be delivered in exchange therefor if, and to the