

## [CHAPTER 296]

## AN ACT

To amend an Act entitled "An Act authorizing the temporary detail of John L. Savage, an employee of the United States, to service under the government of the State of New South Wales, Australia, and the government of the Punjab, India" (Act of June 29, 1940, Public, Numbered 678, Seventy-sixth Congress, third session).

July 14, 1941  
[S. 1488]  
[Public Law 172]

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the Act entitled "An Act authorizing the temporary detail of John L. Savage, an employee of the United States, to service under the government of the State of New South Wales, Australia, and the government of the Punjab, India," approved June 29, 1940 (Public, Numbered 678, Seventy-sixth Congress, third session), is hereby amended by striking out the words "State of New South Wales, Australia," and by inserting in lieu thereof the words: "Commonwealth of Australia".

J. L. Savage.  
Detail of, for service  
in Australia and  
India.

54 Stat. 691.

Approved, July 14, 1941.

## [CHAPTER 297]

## AN ACT

To provide for priorities in transportation by merchant vessels in the interests of national defense, and for other purposes.

July 14, 1941  
[H. R. 4700]  
[Public Law 173]

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That during the emergency declared by the President on May 27, 1941, to exist but not after June 30, 1943, the President may, notwithstanding any other provisions of law, whenever he deems it in the interest of national defense, including the maintenance of essential supplies and services, authorize the United States Maritime Commission to issue warrants as hereinafter provided with respect to any vessel documented under the laws of the United States or any vessel not so documented but owned by a citizen of the United States. Such warrants may also be issued to foreign-flag vessels not owned by citizens of the United States upon application therefor by the owner of said vessel or the charterer thereof on behalf of such owner. Such application shall be in such form as the United States Maritime Commission may prescribe. All warrants shall be issued and may be revoked pursuant to regulations issued by the United States Maritime Commission with the approval of the President.

National defense.  
Priorities in trans-  
portation by merchant  
vessels; issuance of  
warrants.  
6 F. R. 2617.

7 F. R. 837.

SEC. 2. The warrants to be issued pursuant to this Act shall be in such form as the Maritime Commission shall prescribe, and shall set forth the conditions to be complied with by the affected vessel as a condition to receiving the priorities and other advantages provided in this Act, by reference to an undertaking of the owner or charterer with respect to the trades in which such vessel shall be employed, the voyages which it shall undertake, the class or classes of cargo or passengers to be carried, the fair and reasonable maximum rate of charter-hire or equivalent, and such incidental and supplementary matters as appear to the United States Maritime Commission to be necessary or expedient for the purposes of the warrant. Nothing in this Act shall authorize the United States Maritime Commission to require the owner or charterer to relinquish the manning, storing, victualing, supplying, fueling, maintaining, or repairing of his vessel to any other person or persons. Nothing in this Act shall be deemed to alter, amend, or repeal any of the coastwise laws of the United States.

Form of warrants;  
conditions.

Coastwise laws not  
affected.

Priorities in use of certain facilities, etc.

SEC. 3. Vessels holding warrants issued pursuant to this Act shall be entitled to priority over merchant vessels not holding such warrants, with respect to the use of facilities for loading, discharging, lightering or storage of cargoes, the procurement of bunker fuel or coal, and the towing, overhauling, drydocking or repair of such vessels. Vessels holding warrants shall have such priority as among themselves, as the United States Maritime Commission shall determine to be necessary and advisable in the interests of national defense, or as may be specified in the warrants. Persons in the United States, including the Philippine Islands and the Canal Zone, furnishing any of the above-mentioned facilities shall be authorized, and under rules and regulations prescribed by the United States Maritime Commission with the approval of the President may be required, to grant such priorities, anything in any contract whether heretofore or hereafter made to the contrary notwithstanding.

Priorities in importation and transportation.

SEC. 4. In the administration of this Act it shall be the policy of the Commission to make fair and reasonable provision for priorities with respect to (1) the importation of substantial quantities of strategic and critical materials, (2) the transportation of substantial quantities of materials when such transportation is requested by any defense agency, and (3) the transportation in the foreign or domestic commerce of the United States of substantial quantities of materials deemed by the Commission to be essential to the defense of the United States: *Provided*, That there shall be no unjust discrimination between ports of the United States. Nothing in this Act shall authorize the exaction of any sum from the holder of a warrant solely for the privilege of carrying cargo on any route. Vessels that on January 1, 1941, were engaged primarily in the coastwise transportation of coal for national defense and domestic consumption shall be granted warrants only so long as they continue in the same service as of said date, except that in case any such vessel ceased, before June 15, 1941, to engage in such transportation of coal and before such date became principally engaged in the transportation of defense materials, the Commission may grant such vessel a warrant for such service as it deems suitable pursuant to section 2.

*Proviso.*  
No unjust discrimination.

Coastwise transportation of coal.

"Citizen of the United States."

SEC. 5. The term "citizen of the United States" as used in this Act includes corporations, partnerships, and associations existing, authorized, or organized under the laws of the United States or any State, district, Territory, or possession thereof.

Penal provision.

SEC. 6. Whoever willfully violates any rule, regulation, or order issued under the authority conferred herein shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$5,000, or by imprisonment for not more than two years or both: *Provided*, That the District Court of the Canal Zone and the several courts of first instance of the Commonwealth of the Philippine Islands shall have jurisdiction over offenses committed against the provisions of this Act within the Canal Zone and the Philippine Islands, respectively.

*Proviso.*  
Jurisdiction of prosecution.

Approved, July 14, 1941.

[CHAPTER 298]

AN ACT

To authorize the Secretary of the Navy to proceed with the construction of certain public works, and for other purposes.

July 14, 1941

[H. R. 4839]

[Public Law 174]

Navy.  
Public works projects.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That the Secretary of the Navy is hereby authorized to establish or develop the following shore establishments by the construction of the following public-works projects, with which shall be included the authority to acquire