

[CHAPTER 423]

AN ACT

To dispense with the requirement of clearance and entry for certain United States vessels on the Great Lakes which touch at Canadian ports for bunker fuel only.

September 25, 1941  
[H. R. 5289]  
[Public Law 260]

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That section 2793 of the Revised Statutes, as amended (U. S. C., title 46, secs. 111 and 123), is amended to read as follows:

Shipping.

“SEC. 2793. Enrolled or licensed vessels engaged in the foreign and coasting trade on the northern, northeastern, and northwestern frontiers of the United States, departing from or arriving at a port in one district to or from a port in another district, and also touching at intermediate foreign ports, shall not thereby become liable to the payment of entry and clearance fees or tonnage tax, as if from or to foreign ports; but such vessel shall, notwithstanding, be required to enter and clear; except that when such vessels are on such voyages on the Great Lakes and touch at foreign ports for the purpose of taking on bunker fuel only, they may be exempted from entering and clearing under such rules and regulations as the Secretary of Commerce may prescribe, notwithstanding any other provisions of law: *Provided*, That this exception shall not apply to such vessels if, while at such foreign port, they land or take on board any passengers, or any merchandise other than bunker fuel, receive orders, discharge any seamen by mutual consent, or engage any seamen to replace those discharged by mutual consent, or transact any other business save that of taking on bunker fuel.”

Clearance and entry for certain vessels.

Exception.

Proviso.

Approved, September 25, 1941.

[CHAPTER 424]

AN ACT

To permit the steamship Port Saunders, official number 220150, and steamship Hawk, official number 220149, to engage in the fisheries.

September 25, 1941  
[H. R. 5425]  
[Public Law 261]

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the steamship Port Saunders, official number 220150, and the steamship Hawk, official number 220149, may be registered or enrolled and licensed as vessels of the United States for the purpose of engaging in the fisheries as long as such vessels are owned by a citizen of the United States, native born or fully naturalized, or a corporation which is a citizen of the United States and of which 75 per centum of the interest therein is owned by citizens of the United States, as defined in section 2 (c) of the Shipping Act, 1916, as amended: *Provided*, That neither of these vessels may engage in the coastwise trade under penalty of forfeiture.

S. S. Port Saunders and S. S. Hawk. Registration, etc.

41 Stat. 1008.  
46 U. S. C. § 802 (c).  
*Proviso.*

Approved, September 25, 1941.

[CHAPTER 425]

AN ACT

To provide retirement pay and hospital benefits to certain Reserve officers, Army of the United States, disabled while on active duty.

September 26, 1941  
[H. R. 3484]  
[Public Law 262]

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That Reserve officers, Army of the United States, who were called or ordered into the active military service by the Federal Government for extended military service in excess of thirty days on or subsequent to February 28, 1925, other than for service with the Civilian Conservation Corps, and who are now disabled from disease or injury contracted or received in line of duty while so employed, shall be deemed to have

Reserve officers, Army of U. S. Retirement pay and hospital benefits.

been in the active military service during such period and shall be in all respects entitled to receive the same retirement pay and hospital benefits as are now or may hereafter be provided by law or regulation for officers of corresponding grades and length of service of the Regular Army.

Administration, etc.  
*Provisos.*  
Determination of eligibility.

SEC. 2. That the duties, powers, and functions incident to the administration and payment of the benefits herein provided are hereby vested in the Veterans' Administration: *Provided*, That in the administration of the retirement pay provisions of the said statute the determination of all questions of eligibility for the benefits thereof, including all questions of law and fact relating to such eligibility, shall be made by the Secretary of War, or by someone designated by him in the War Department, in the manner, and in accordance with the standards, provided by law or regulations for Regular Army personnel: *And provided further*, That no bounty, back pay, pension, or allowance shall be held to have accrued prior to the passage of this Act.

Back pay, etc.

Approved, September 26, 1941.

[CHAPTER 426]

AN ACT

September 26, 1941  
[H. R. 4520]  
[Public Law 263]

To ratify and confirm certain right of purchase leases, special homestead agreements, cash freehold agreements, certificates of occupation, homestead leases, and patents issued under or in purported compliance with section 73 of the Hawaiian Organic Act and the laws of the Territory of Hawaii.

Territory of Hawaii.  
Validity of certain leases and agreements.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That no right of purchase lease, special homestead agreement, cash freehold agreement, certificate of occupation, homestead lease, or patent issued on or before the 25th day of November 1940, under or in purported compliance with section 73 of the Hawaiian Organic Act or the laws of Hawaii, relating to public lands, shall be held invalid or void for or on account of (a) failure to publish a notice of the sale, drawing, or allotment of the lands described in such lease, agreement, certificate, or patent, for the period required by section 73 of the Hawaiian Organic Act, as amended by the Act of May 27, 1910, Thirty-sixth Statutes at Large 444, or to determine the persons entitled to take said lands by drawing or lot, if in either of such cases, said lands were opened for sale, settlement, or occupation by public notice in compliance with the statutes in effect prior to said Act of May 27, 1910; (b) if said lands were opened for sale, settlement, or occupation by any of the following methods, to wit: Right of purchase lease, special homestead agreement, cash freehold agreement, or certificate of occupation, the fact that said lands were not opened for sale, settlement, or occupation by the particular method followed in issuing such lease, agreement, or certificate, or homestead lease or patent based thereon; (c) the inclusion in one lease, agreement, certificate, or patent of detached or noncontiguous parcels of land, or two or more parcels of land originally offered as separate homesteads or lots.

31 Stat. 154; 36 Stat. 444.  
48 U. S. C. §§ 663-677.

Ratification, etc.

SEC. 2. Such right of purchase leases, special homestead agreements, cash freehold agreements, certificates of occupation, homestead leases, and patents are hereby ratified and confirmed to the extent hereinbefore set forth and, to the extent so ratified and confirmed, shall be deemed and held to be perfect and valid from the day of the date thereof for all purposes, including the issuance of homestead leases or patents based thereon; all questions or disputes that may arise in relation to said lands or the titles thereof shall be decided and determined accordingly.

SEC. 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

Approved, September 26, 1941.