

[CHAPTER 136]

AN ACT

To extend the times for commencing and completing the construction of a bridge across the Saint Croix River at or near Hudson, Wisconsin.

June 22, 1943
[H. R. 2077]

[Public Law 84]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the times for commencing and completing the construction of a bridge across the Saint Croix River at or near Hudson, Wisconsin, authorized to be built by the States of Minnesota and Wisconsin, jointly or separately, by an Act of Congress approved July 17, 1942, are hereby extended two and four years, respectively, from July 17, 1943.

Saint Croix River.
Time extended for
bridging, at Hudson,
Wis.

56 Stat. 661.

SEC. 2. The right to alter, amend, or repeal this Act is hereby expressly reserved.

Approved June 22, 1943.

[CHAPTER 137]

AN ACT

To amend section 353 (b) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended.

June 22, 1943
[H. R. 2750]

[Public Law 85]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section 353 (b) of the Communications Act of 1934 (50 Stat. 193, 55 Stat. 579; U. S. C., 1940 edition, title 47, sec. 353 (b)), as amended, is hereby amended to read as follows:

Communications
Act of 1934, amend-
ment.
47 U. S. C., Supp.
II, § 353 (b).
Post, p. 244.

Radio operators on
cargo ships.

“(b) A cargo ship, required by this part to be fitted with a radio installation, which is fitted with an autoalarm in accordance with this title, shall, for safety purposes, carry at least one qualified operator who shall have had at least six months' previous service in the aggregate as a qualified operator in a station on board a ship or ships of the United States, but during the emergency proclaimed by the President on September 8, 1939, to exist, but not after the termination of such emergency or such earlier date as Congress by concurrent resolution may designate, the aforesaid requirement of six months' previous service may be suspended or modified by regulation or order of the Commission for successive periods of not more than six months' duration.”

54 Stat. 2643.
50 U. S. C., app.,
note prec. § 1.

Approved June 22, 1943.

[CHAPTER 138]

JOINT RESOLUTION

To authorize an appropriation for work relief in Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands.

June 22, 1943
[H. J. Res. 128]

[Public Law 86]

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Federal Works Administrator is authorized to provide work for employable needy persons on useful public projects in Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands for the period July 1, 1943, to November 30, 1943, in accordance with the appropriate provisions and for the purposes prescribed in the Emergency Relief Appropriation Act, fiscal year 1943, which provisions are hereby extended and made applicable to the appropriations made to carry out the purposes of this joint resolution. There is hereby authorized to be appropriated a sum not to exceed \$8,000,000 to carry out the provisions of this joint resolution, including administrative expenses in connection therewith.

Puerto Rico and
Virgin Islands, work
relief.

56 Stat. 634.
15 U. S. C., Supp.
II, §§ 721-728 note.

Appropriation au-
thorized.
Post, pp. 541, 617.

Approved June 22, 1943.

[CHAPTER 142]

AN ACT

June 23, 1943
[H. R. 131]
[Public Law 87]

To provide reemployment rights for persons who leave their positions to serve in the merchant marine, and for other purposes.

Merchant marine.
Reemployment
rights.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That when used in this Act the term "service in the merchant marine" means service as an officer or member of the crew on or in connection with a vessel documented under the laws of the United States or a vessel owned by, chartered to, or operated by or for the account or use of the Administrator, as an enrollee in the United States Maritime Service on active duty, and, to such extent as the Administrator shall prescribe, any period awaiting assignment to such service and any period of education or training for such service in any school or institution under the jurisdiction of the Administrator. Any person entering service in the merchant marine after May 1, 1940, and before the termination of the unlimited national emergency declared by the President on May 27, 1941, who, in accordance with rules and regulations prescribed by the Administrator, War Shipping Administration, completes a period of substantially continuous service in the merchant marine, shall be entitled to a certificate to that effect from the Administrator upon completion of such period, which shall include a record of any special proficiency or merit obtained.

Certificate upon
completion of service.

55 Stat. 1647.
50 U. S. C., Supp.
II, app., note prec. § 1.

Requirements for re-
employment.

SEC. 2. (a) In the case of any such person who, in order to perform service in the merchant marine, has left or leaves a position, other than a temporary position, in the employ of any employer and who (1) receives such certificate, (2) is still qualified to perform the duties of such position, and (3) makes application for reemployment within forty days after completion of such service—

(A) if such position was in the employ of the United States Government, its Territories or possessions, or the District of Columbia, such person shall be restored to such position or to a position of like seniority, status, and pay;

(B) if such position was in the employ of a private employer, such employer shall restore such person to such position or to a position of like seniority, status, and pay unless the employer's circumstances have so changed as to make it impossible or unreasonable to do so;

(C) if such position was in the employ of any State or political subdivision thereof, it is hereby declared to be the sense of the Congress that such person should be restored to such position or to a position of like seniority, status, and pay.

Status upon restora-
tion.

(b) Any person who is restored to a position in accordance with the provisions of paragraph (A) or (B) of subsection (a) shall be considered as having been on furlough or leave of absence during his period of service, shall be so restored without loss of seniority, shall be entitled to participate in insurance or other benefits offered by the employer pursuant to established rules and practices relating to employees on furlough or leave of absence in effect with the employer at the time such person entered such service, and shall not be discharged from such position without reasonable cause within one year after such restoration.

Remedy against pri-
vate employer.

SEC. 3. In case any private employer fails or refuses to comply with the provisions of section 2, the district court of the United States for the district in which such private employer maintains a place of business shall have power, upon the filing of a motion, petition, or other appropriate pleading by the person entitled to the benefits of such provisions, to specifically require such employer to comply with