

[CHAPTER 133]

AN ACT

May 29, 1945
[H. R. 1652]
[Public Law 65]

Granting the consent of Congress to the State of Louisiana to construct, maintain, and operate a free highway bridge across the Mississippi River at or near New Orleans, Louisiana.

Mississippi River.
Bridge at New Or-
leans, La.

34 Stat. 84.
33 U. S. C. §§ 491-
498.

Time limitation.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the consent of Congress is hereby granted to the State of Louisiana to construct, maintain, and operate a free highway bridge and approaches thereto across the Mississippi River, at a point suitable to the interests of navigation, at or near New Orleans, in accordance with the provisions of the Act entitled "An Act to regulate the construction of bridges over navigable waters", approved March 23, 1906, and subject to the conditions and limitations contained in this Act.

SEC. 2. The authority granted by this Act shall terminate if the actual construction of the bridge herein authorized is not commenced within two years and completed within four years from the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 3. The right to alter, amend, or repeal this Act is hereby expressly reserved.

Approved May 29, 1945.

[CHAPTER 134]

AN ACT

May 29, 1945
[H. R. 1659]
[Public Law 66]

Authorizing the Department of Highways of the State of Minnesota to construct, maintain, and operate a bridge across the Pigeon River.

Pigeon River.
Bridge below High
Falls.

34 Stat. 84.
33 U. S. C. §§ 491-
498.

Cooperation with
Canada.

Time limitation.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That in order to facilitate international commerce, improve the postal service, and provide for military and other purposes, the Department of Highways of the State of Minnesota is hereby authorized to construct, maintain, and operate a free highway bridge and approaches thereto across the Pigeon River, so far as the United States has jurisdiction over the waters of such river, at a point suitable to the interests of navigation below High Falls on said Pigeon River, on Trunk Highway Numbered 61, in accordance with the provisions of the Act entitled "An Act to regulate the construction of bridges over navigable waters", approved March 23, 1906, subject to the conditions and limitations contained in this Act, and subject to the approval of the proper authorities in the Dominion of Canada.

SEC. 2. The rights, privileges, and powers conferred upon the Department of Highways of the State of Minnesota by this Act may be exercised by such department in cooperation with the Dominion of Canada or any political subdivision or agency thereof, which may agree with such department in the construction, maintenance, and operation of such bridge.

SEC. 3. The authority granted by this Act shall terminate if the actual construction of the bridge herein authorized is not commenced within two years and completed within four years from the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 4. The right to alter, amend, or repeal this Act is hereby expressly reserved.

Approved May 29, 1945.

[CHAPTER 135]

AN ACT

To provide for the settlement of claims of military personnel and civilian employees of the War Department or of the Army for damage to or loss, destruction, capture, or abandonment of personal property occurring incident to their service.

May 29, 1945
[H. R. 2068]
[Public Law 67]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of War, and such other officer or officers as he may designate for such purposes and under such regulations as he may prescribe, are hereby authorized to consider, ascertain, adjust, determine, settle, and pay any claim against the United States, including claims not heretofore satisfied arising on or after December 7, 1939, of military personnel and civilian employees of the War Department or of the Army, when such claim is substantiated, and the property determined to be reasonable, useful, necessary, or proper under the attendant circumstances, in such manner as the Secretary of War may by regulation prescribe, for damage to or loss, destruction, capture, or abandonment of personal property occurring incident to their service, or to replace such personal property in kind: *Provided*, That the damage to or loss, destruction, capture, or abandonment of property shall not have been caused in whole or in part by any negligence or wrongful act on the part of the claimant, his agent, or employee, and shall not have occurred at quarters occupied by the claimant within continental United States (excluding Alaska) which are not assigned to him or otherwise provided in kind by the Government. No claim shall be settled under this Act unless presented in writing within one year after the accident or incident out of which such claim arises shall have occurred: *Provided*, That if such accident or incident occurs in time of war, or if war intervenes within two years after its occurrence, any claim may, on good cause shown, be presented within one year after peace is established. Any such settlement made by the Secretary of War, or his designee, under the authority of this Act and such regulations as he may prescribe hereunder, shall be final and conclusive for all purposes, notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary.

Military Personnel
Claims Act of 1945.

Claims arising on or
after Dec. 7, 1939.

Negligence or wrong-
ful act of claimant, etc.

Time limitation.

Settlement to be
final and conclusive.

SEC. 2. Such appropriations as may be required for the settlement of claims under the provisions of this Act are hereby authorized. Appropriations available to the War Department for the settlement of claims under the provisions of the Act of March 3, 1885 (23 Stat. 350), as amended, shall be available for the settlement of claims under the provisions of this Act.

Appropriations au-
thorized.
Post, p. 389.

31 U. S. C. §§ 218-
222; Supp. IV, §§ 222a,
222b.
Infra.

SEC. 3. Sections 3483-3488 of the Revised Statutes (31 U. S. C. 209-214), and the Act of March 3, 1885 (23 Stat. 350), as amended by the Act of July 9, 1918 (40 Stat. 880), and by the Act of March 4, 1921 (41 Stat. 1436; 31 U. S. C. 218-222), and by section 6 of the Act of July 3, 1943 (57 Stat. 374; 31 U. S. C. 222a, 222b), are hereby repealed.

31 U. S. C. §§ 218-222.

31 U. S. C., Supp.
IV, §§ 222a, 222b.

SEC. 4. That portion of section 1 of the Act of July 3, 1943 (57 Stat. 372; 31 U. S. C. 223b), reading as follows: "The provisions of this Act shall not be applicable to claims arising in foreign countries or possessions thereof which are cognizable under the provisions of the Act of January 2, 1942 (55 Stat. 880; 31 U. S. C. 224d), as amended, or to claims for damage to or loss or destruction of property of military personnel or civilian employees of the War Department or of the Army, or for personal injury or death of such persons, if such damage, loss, destruction, injury, or death occurs

31 U. S. C., Supp.
IV, § 223b.

31 U. S. C., Supp.
IV, § 224d.
Post, p. 511.