

(b) After consultation with the Secretary of Defense it is determined that the sale of such vessels would not adversely affect the defense of the United States;

(c) After investigation it is determined that there are no privately owned C1-MAV-1 type vessels offered and available for sale by American citizens as defined in section 2 of the Shipping Act, 1916, as amended, at prices equal to or less than, and upon credit terms similar to, those provided for below;

(d) The sale of such vessels shall be at prices determined under section 3 of the Merchant Ship Sales Act, 1946, as amended, as-is, where-is;

(e) At the time of sale the purchasers shall pay at least 25 per centum of the price determined under subsection (d). The Secretary of Commerce, after consultation with the National Advisory Council on International Monetary and Financial Problems, shall fix the terms of payment on unpaid balances, which terms shall in no event be more favorable than the terms applicable in the case of sales to citizens of the United States;

(f) The obligation of the purchasers with respect to the payment of such unpaid balance of the purchase price and interest thereon shall be secured by a mortgage which shall contain, among others, provisions according to such mortgage, the priorities over other liens and encumbrances accorded such mortgages on merchant vessels under the laws of the country to which the registry of the vessels is transferred; and

(g) Every transfer under the authority of this Act, including transfers under the authority of section 9, or section 37, of the Shipping Act, 1916, within the intent of subsection (c) hereof, shall be subject to an agreement by the Government of Brazil that the vessels whether under mortgage to the United States or not shall not engage in international trade or in other than the coastwise trade of Brazil.

Approved July 15, 1954.

Public Law 497

CHAPTER 509

AN ACT

To authorize the collection of indebtedness of military and civilian personnel resulting from erroneous payments, and for other purposes.

July 15, 1954
[S. 2728]

U. S. and Armed
Forces employees.
Salary deduction
for erroneous pay-
ment.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That, when it is determined by the Secretary of the department concerned or the head of the agency or independent establishment concerned, or one of their designees, that an employee of the United States or any member of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, or Coast Guard, or a reserve component thereof, is indebted to the United States as the result of any erroneous payment made by the department, agency, or independent establishment concerned to or on behalf of any such person, the amount of the indebtedness may be collected in monthly installments, or at officially established regular pay period intervals, by deduction in reasonable amounts from the current pay account of such person. The deductions may be made only from basic compensation, basic pay, special pay, and incentive pay, retired pay, retainer pay, or in the case of persons not entitled to basic pay, other authorized pay. Collection shall be effected over a period not greater than the anticipated period of active duty or period of employment, as the case may be. The amount deducted for any period shall not exceed an amount equal to two-thirds of the pay from which the deduction is made, unless the

60 Stat. 41.
50 USC app.
1736.

39 Stat. 730; 40
Stat. 901.
46 USC 808, 835.

deduction of a greater amount is necessary to effect collection within the period or anticipated period of active duty or employment. If such individual retires, resigns, or his employment or period of active duty is otherwise terminated before such adjustment has been completed, adjustment shall be made by decreasing subsequent payments, of whatever nature, due such person by the department, agency, or independent establishment concerned. Nothing in this section shall modify any existing law which provides for forfeiture of pay or allowances.

SEC. 2. Each Secretary of a department, or head of an agency or independent establishment, as appropriate, shall prescribe regulations to carry out the purposes of this Act. Such regulations shall be approved by the Director of the Bureau of the Budget. Regulations prescribed by the Secretaries of the Army, Navy, and Air Force shall be uniform for the military services insofar as practicable.

SEC. 3. (a) In accordance with settlement procedures prescribed by the Comptroller General of the United States, the Secretary of the department concerned or the head of the agency or independent establishment concerned is authorized to charge the net amount of the unpaid and overpaid balances occurring in individual pay accounts against the appropriation for the fiscal year in which the balances occurred, and from which the amount was payable, and the net amount shall be credited to and paid from the corresponding appropriation for the next succeeding fiscal year.

(b) The Act of February 9, 1946 (ch. 2, 60 Stat. 3) is repealed.

SEC. 4. Nothing contained in this Act shall be construed as repealing, amending, or modifying in any way the provisions of the Act of May 22, 1928 (ch. 676, 45 Stat. 698).

Approved July 15, 1954.

Regulations.

Unpaid and overpaid balances.

Repeal.
31 USC 634a.

10 USC 875a.

Public Law 498

CHAPTER 510

AN ACT

To amend section 12 of the Alaska Public Works Act, approved August 24, 1949 (63 Stat. 629).

July 15, 1954
[H. R. 2683]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section 12 of the Alaska Public Works Act, approved August 24, 1949 (63 Stat. 629), is amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 12. The authority of the Secretary under this Act to provide public works and to enter into agreements with applicants in connection therewith shall terminate on June 30, 1959, or on the date he obligates for such purposes the total amount authorized to be appropriated hereunder, whichever first occurs."

Approved July 15, 1954.

Alaska public works program.

48 USC 486j.

Termination date.

Public Law 499

CHAPTER 511

AN ACT

To suspend for two years the duty on crude bauxite and on certain calcined bauxite and to remit the duty on certain bauxites to be imported for addition to the carillon of The Citadel, Charleston, South Carolina.

July 15, 1954
[H. R. 222]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That, effective only with respect to articles entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for

Bauxite.
Suspension of duty.