

## Public Law 758

## CHAPTER 670

## AN ACT

July 24, 1956  
[S. 2517]

To amend subsection 3 (a) of the Act approved August 8, 1947, to authorize the sale of timber within the Tongass National Forest, Alaska.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That subsection (a) of section 3 of the Act approved August 8, 1947 (61 Stat. 920), is hereby amended by striking out the period at the end of said subsection and inserting in lieu thereof a colon and the following: "*Provided*, That all receipts heretofore and hereafter received from the sale of such timber shall be subject to the provisions of the Act of May 23, 1908 (35 Stat. 260), as amended, and the Act of March 4, 1913 (37 Stat. 843), as amended. If any claims of possessory rights to lands or timber within the exterior boundaries of the Tongass National Forest are determined to be valid, the Territory of Alaska shall pay to the United States 25 per centum of the moneys required to satisfy such claims: *Provided*, That the Territory shall not be required to pay to the United States any amount in excess of the total amount received by the Territory from the United States pursuant to the Act of March 23, 1908: *Provided further*, That such payments by the Territory to the United States shall, to the extent possible, be effected by deductions from the amounts otherwise payable to the Territory pursuant to such Act."

Tongass National  
Forest, Alaska.

16 USC 500, 501.

Approved July 24, 1956.

## Public Law 759

## CHAPTER 671

## AN ACT

July 24, 1956  
[S. 2711]

To authorize medals and decorations for outstanding and meritorious conduct and service in the United States merchant marine, and for other purposes.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That (a) the Secretary of Commerce is authorized, under such rules and regulations as he may prescribe, to provide and award with the concurrence of the Secretary of the Treasury: A merchant marine distinguished service medal to any person serving in the United States merchant marine who distinguishes himself by outstanding act, conduct, or valor beyond the line of duty, and a merchant marine meritorious service medal to any person serving in the United States merchant marine for meritorious act, conduct, or service in line of duty, but not of such outstanding character as would warrant an award of the distinguished service medal.

U. S. Merchant  
Marine.  
Medals and decorations.

(b) No more than one distinguished service medal or meritorious service medal shall be awarded to any one person, but for each succeeding act, conduct, or service justifying such an award, a suitable device may be awarded to be worn with the medal or ribbon. In case any person who so distinguishes himself or so acts or serves as to justify the award of a medal under this section dies before the award can be made to him, the award may be made and medal presented to such representatives of the deceased as the Secretary of Commerce deems proper.

Restriction.

SEC. 2. The Secretary of Commerce is authorized to provide and issue, under such rules and regulations as he may from time to time prescribe, a distinctive service ribbon bar to each master, officer, or member of the crew of any United States ship who serves or has served after June 30, 1950, in any time of war, or national emergency pro-

Service ribbon  
bar.

Cost.	Replacements.	<p>claimed by the President or by Congress, or during an operation by Armed Forces of the United States outside the continental United States, for such period of time and in such area or under such conditions of danger to life as the Secretary may set forth in regulations issued hereunder. Such bars shall be provided at cost by the Secretary or at reasonable prices by private persons when authorized for manufacture and sale by the Secretary. Whenever any bar presented under the provisions of this section is lost, destroyed, or rendered unfit for use, without fault or neglect of the owner, such bar may be replaced at cost by the Secretary or at reasonable prices by private persons authorized by him.</p>
Ship citation.		<p>SEC. 3. The Secretary of Commerce is authorized to issue, with the concurrence of the Secretary of the Treasury, a citation as public evidence of deserved honor and distinction to any United States ship or to any foreign ship which participates in outstanding or gallant action in marine disasters or other emergencies for the purpose of saving life or property. The Secretary of Commerce may award a plaque to a ship so cited, and a replica of such plaque may be preserved, under such rules and regulations as the Secretary may prescribe, as a permanent historic record. The Secretary of Commerce may also award an appropriate citation ribbon bar to the master or each person serving on board such ship at the time of the action for which citation is made, as public evidence of such honor and distinction. Whenever such master or person would be entitled hereunder to the award of an additional citation ribbon, a suitable device shall be awarded, in lieu thereof, to be attached to the ribbon originally awarded. In any case of a proposed award or citation to a foreign ship or to a master or person serving aboard such ship, such award or citation shall be subject to the concurrence of the Secretary of State.</p>
Plaque.		
Prohibition.		<p>SEC. 4. The manufacture, sale, possession, or display of any insignia, decoration, medal, device, or rosette thereof, or any colorable imitation of any insignia, decoration, medal or device, or rosette, provided for in this Act, or in any rule or regulation issued pursuant to this Act, is prohibited, except as authorized by this Act or any rule or regulation issued pursuant thereto. Whoever violates any provision of this section shall be punished by a fine not exceeding \$250 or by imprisonment not exceeding six months, or both.</p>
Penalty.		
Repeals.		<p>SEC. 5. (a) The following Acts of Congress are repealed effective July 1, 1954:</p> <p>(1) The Act entitled "To provide for the issuance of devices in recognition of the services of merchant sailors", approved May 10, 1943, as amended (57 Stat. 81, 59 Stat. 511, 60 Stat. 884; U. S. C., title 50, War, Appendix, secs. 753a-753f).</p> <p>(2) The Act entitled "Providing for a medal for service in the merchant marine during the present war", approved August 8, 1946 (60 Stat. 960; U. S. C., title 50, War, Appendix, secs. 754-754b).</p> <p>(3) The Act entitled "To provide reemployment rights for persons who leave their positions to serve in the merchant marine, and for other purposes", approved June 23, 1943, as amended (57 Stat. 162, 60 Stat. 905, 60 Stat. 945; U. S. C., title 50, War, Appendix, secs. 1471-1475).</p>
Replacements.		<p>(b) Notwithstanding the repeal of the Acts of Congress in subsection (a) the Secretary of Commerce is authorized, under such rules and regulations as he may from time to time prescribe to make replacements at cost or permit replacements at reasonable prices by persons authorized by him of the awards, medals, decorations, or other articles issued under such Acts, if lost, destroyed, or rendered unfit for use, without fault or neglect on the part of the owner.</p>
		<p>Approved July 24, 1956.</p>