

63 Stat. 377.
40 USC 471 note.

Administration for disposal in accordance with the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949, except that the Administrator of General Services shall first offer the laboratories for public sale before seeking to dispose of them by transfer or assignment to any Federal agency. The Administrator of General Services, before he offers the laboratories to the public for sale, shall ascertain what the value of the laboratories would be to Government agencies which would make substantial use thereof, and the Administrator shall not sell the laboratories to the public unless he finds, after consultation with the Director of the Budget Bureau, that such sale to the public would be in the best interests of the United States, taking into consideration among other relevant factors the value of the laboratories to any interested agency and the amounts offered by public bidders. The National Science Foundation is authorized to reimburse the General Services Administration in advance for expenses necessary for the protection and maintenance of the laboratories up to June 30, 1957.

Approved July 26, 1956.

Public Law 807

CHAPTER 739

AN ACT

July 26, 1956
[H. R. 7723]

To authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to convey certain lands in Phelps County, Missouri, to the Chamber of Commerce of Rolla, Missouri.

Phelps County,
Mo.
Conveyance.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of Agriculture is authorized and directed to convey to the Chamber of Commerce of Rolla, Missouri, all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to the following described lands, comprising a portion of a tract of land previously donated to the United States by such Chamber of Commerce in connection with the program of the Civilian Conservation Corps: Parcel of land in Phelps County, Missouri, described as the south half of lot 118 of the railroad addition to the town of Rolla, Missouri, being the same as the south half of the northwest quarter of the southeast quarter of the northeast quarter of section 10, township 37 north, range 8 west.

Reversion.

SEC. 2. The conveyance authorized by this Act shall provide that in the event that the lands cease to be used for public purposes all right, title, and interest therein shall immediately revert to and revest in the United States.

Approved July 26, 1956.

Public Law 808

CHAPTER 740

AN ACT

July 26, 1956
[H. R. 9038]

To amend title 28 of the United States Code to provide that the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico shall be treated as a State for purposes of district court jurisdiction based on diversity of citizenship.

Puerto Rico.
62 Stat. 930.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section 1332 (b) of title 28 of the United States Code is amended to read as follows: "(b) The word 'States', as used in this section, includes the Territories, the District of Columbia, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico."

Approved July 26, 1956.

Public Law 809

CHAPTER 741

AN ACT

July 26, 1956
[H. R. 10285]

To merge production credit corporations in Federal intermediate credit banks; to provide for retirement of Government capital in Federal intermediate credit banks; to provide for supervision of production credit associations; and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That this Act may be cited as the "Farm Credit Act of 1956".

Farm Credit Act
of 1956.

DECLARATION OF POLICY

SEC. 2. It is declared to be the policy of the Congress to continue to provide agriculture with a sound, dependable, and effective source of credit; to promote the efficiency of the farm credit system by merging production credit corporations in Federal intermediate credit banks and to facilitate increased farmer participation in the management, control, and ownership of the merged banks and retirement of Government capital therein; to encourage and promote the continued growth and development of the production credit associations as self-supporting cooperative lending institutions operating on a sound credit basis with maximum local authority to determine credit needs and loan policies consistent with the maintenance of a national production credit system; and to continue to provide other financing institutions making loans to farmers and ranchers with the right to borrow from and rediscount with such merged banks on a basis comparable with the production credit associations regardless of the ownership of such banks. The provisions of this Act shall be construed in keeping with this declaration of policy.

TITLE I—PRODUCTION CREDIT SYSTEM

SEC. 101. MERGER OF PRODUCTION CREDIT CORPORATIONS IN FEDERAL INTERMEDIATE CREDIT BANKS—(a) TRANSFER OF ASSETS.—The production credit corporation in each farm credit district is hereby merged in the Federal intermediate credit bank of the district and all assets, funds, contracts, property, and records belonging to such corporation, except stock in production credit associations, are hereby transferred to and vested in such bank. All obligations and liabilities of the production credit corporation shall be assumed by the Federal intermediate credit bank of the district. Stock held by each production credit corporation in production credit associations is transferred to the Governor of the Farm Credit Administration and the Governor shall cancel an equal par amount of stock of the corporation.

(b) SERVICES TO AND SUPERVISION OF PRODUCTION CREDIT ASSOCIATIONS.—In order to carry out the declared policy of this Act with respect to the production credit associations, the Farm Credit Administration shall, by appropriate provisions in the charter and bylaws, or otherwise, provide for such organization and assignment of functions within the Federal intermediate credit banks as will assure proper supervision of and assistance to the production credit associations in a manner which will enable them to make sound credit available to farmers and ranchers. The income derived from the surplus transferred from the production credit corporation to the Federal intermediate credit bank of the district shall be used to pay expenses of the bank in providing such supervision and assistance, and expenses in excess of such income may be paid out of other resources of the bank.