

Public Law 958

CHAPTER 929

August 3, 1956
[S. 1833]

AN ACT

To amend the Merchant Marine Act of 1936, as amended.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section 1209 (a) of the Merchant Marine Act, 1936, as amended (U. S. C., title 46, sec. 1289 (a)), is amended to read as follows:

“(a) (1) The Secretary, in the administration of this title, may issue such policies, rules, and regulations as he deems proper and may adjust and pay losses, compromise and settle claims, whether in favor of or against the United States and pay the amount of any judgment rendered against the United States in any suit, or the amount of any settlement agreed upon, in respect of any claim under insurance authorized by this title.

“(2) In respect of hull insurance, the valuation in the policy for actual or constructive total loss of the vessel insured shall be a stated valuation (exclusive of National Defense features paid for by the Government) determined by the Secretary which shall not exceed the amount that would be payable if the vessel had been requisitioned for title under section 902 (a) at the time of the attachment of the insurance under said policy: *Provided, however,* That in the case of a construction-subsidized vessel, for the period of insurance prior to requisition for title or use, the valuation so determined shall be reduced by such proportion as the amount of construction subsidy paid with respect to the vessel bears to the entire construction cost and capital improvements thereof (excluding the cost of national defense features), and for the period of insurance after requisition for use the valuation so determined shall not exceed the amount which would be payable under section 802 in the case of requisition for title or use: *Provided further,* That the insured shall have the right within sixty days after the attachment of the insurance under said policy, or within sixty days after determination of such valuation by the Secretary, whichever is later, to reject such valuation, and shall pay, at the rate provided for in said policy, premiums upon such asserted valuation as the insured shall specify at the time of rejection, but such asserted valuation shall not operate to the prejudice of the Government in any subsequent action on the policy. In the event of the actual or constructive total loss of the vessel, if the insured has not rejected such valuation the amount of any claim therefor which is adjusted, compromised, settled, adjudged, or paid shall not exceed such stated amount, but if the insured has so rejected such valuation, the insured shall be paid as a tentative advance only, 75 per centum of such valuation so determined by the Secretary and shall be entitled to sue the United States in a court having jurisdiction of such claims to recover such valuation as would be equal to the just compensation which such court determines would have been payable if the vessel had been requisitioned for title under section 902 (a) at the time of the attachment of the insurance under said policy: *Provided, however,* That in the case of a construction-subsidized vessel, the valuation determined by the court as such just compensation for any period of insurance prior to actual requisition for title or use of the vessel shall be reduced by such proportion as the amount of construction subsidy paid with respect to the vessel bears to the entire construction cost and capital improvements thereof (excluding the cost of national defense features), and for any period of insurance after actual requisition for use, the valuation determined by the court shall be the amount which would have been payable under section 802 in the case of requisition for title: *And provided further,* That in the event of an election

Merchant Marine.
War risk insur-
ance.
64 Stat. 775.

Issuance of poli-
cies, etc.
Claims settle-
ment.

Valuation.

46 USC 1242.
Construction-
subsidized ves-
sels.

46 USC 1212.
Rejection of val-
uation.

by the insured to reject the stated valuation fixed by the Secretary and to sue in the courts, the amount of the judgment will be payable without regard to the limitations contained in the twelfth paragraph under the heading Maritime Activities in title I of the Department of Commerce and Related Agencies Appropriation Act, 1956, in the tenth paragraph under the heading Maritime Activities in title III of the Department of State, Justice, and Commerce, and the United States Information Agency Appropriation Act, 1955, in the eleventh paragraph under the heading 'MARITIME ACTIVITIES' in title III of the Department of Justice, State, and Commerce Appropriation Act, 1954, the tenth paragraph under the heading 'OPERATING DIFFERENTIAL SUBSIDIES' in title II of the Independent Offices Appropriation Act, 1953, the corresponding paragraphs of the Independent Offices Appropriation Act, 1952, and the Third Supplemental Appropriation Act, 1951, although the excess of any amounts advanced on account of just compensation over the amount of the court judgment will be required to be refunded. In the event of such court determination, premiums under the policy shall be adjusted on the basis of the valuation as finally determined and of the rate provided for in said policy."

SEC. 2. Section 902 (c) of the Merchant Marine Act, 1936, as amended (U. S. C., title 46, sec. 1242 (c)), is amended to read as follows:

"(c) If any property is taken and used under authority of this section, but the ownership thereof is not required by the United States, the Commission, at the time of the taking or as soon thereafter as the exigencies of the situation may permit, shall transmit to the person entitled to the possession of such property a charter setting forth the terms which, in the Commission's judgment, should govern the relationships between the United States and such person and a statement of the rate of hire which, in the Commission's judgment, will be just compensation for the use of such property and for the services required under the terms of such charter. If such person does not execute and deliver such charter and accept such rate of hire, the Commission shall pay to such person as a tentative advance only, on account of such just compensation a sum equal to 75 per centum of such rate of hire as the same may from time to time be due under the terms of the charter so tendered, and such person shall be entitled to sue the United States in a court having jurisdiction of such claims to recover such amounts as would be equal to just compensation for the use of the property and for the services required in connection with such use: *Provided, however,* That in the event of an election by such person to reject the rate of hire fixed by the Commission and to sue in the courts, the excess of any amounts advanced on account of just compensation over the amount of the court judgment will be required to be refunded. In the event of loss or damage to such property, due to operation of a risk assumed by the United States under the terms of a charter prescribed in this subsection, but no valuation of such vessel or other property or mode of compensation has been agreed to, the United States shall pay just compensation for such loss or damage, to the extent the person entitled thereto is not reimbursed therefor through policies of insurance against such loss or damage."

SEC. 3. The first sentence of section 902 (d) of the Merchant Marine Act, 1936, as amended (U. S. C., title 46, sec. 1242 (d)) is amended to read as follows:

"(d) In all cases, the just compensation authorized by this section shall be determined and paid by the Commission as soon as practicable, but if the amount of just compensation determined by the Commission is unsatisfactory to the person entitled thereto, such person

46 USC 1242-1.
69 Stat. 231.

68 Stat. 426.

67 Stat. 381.

66 Stat. 414.

65 Stat. 286.

65 Stat. 60.

53 Stat. 1255.

Charter of ves-
sels.

53 Stat. 1255.

Determination of
compensation.

shall be paid, as a tentative advance only, 75 per centum of the amount so determined and shall be entitled to sue the United States to recover such amount as would equal just compensation therefor, in the manner provided for by section 24, paragraph 20, and section 145 of the Judicial Code (U. S. C., 1946 edition, title 28, secs. 41 (20) and 250): *Provided, however,* That in the event of an election to reject the amount determined by the Commission and to sue in the courts, the excess of any amounts advanced on account of just compensation over the amount of the court judgment will be required to be refunded."

Amendment of
prior insurance.
64 Stat. 773.
46 USC 1281-
1294.
46 USC 1289.

SEC. 4. All war-risk insurance issued under title XII of the Merchant Marine Act, 1936, which is in force on the date of the enactment of this Act shall, as of the beginning of such date, be deemed to have been amended to conform to the requirements of section 1209 of the Merchant Marine Act, 1936, as amended by this Act unless the insured, within ten days after such date, objects to such amendment.

SEC. 5. The first sentence of section 1206 of the Merchant Marine Act, 1936, as amended (46 U. S. C. 1286), is amended by striking out the words "during any time the United States is at war or during any period of emergency declared to exist by the President of the United States."

Approved August 3, 1956.

Public Law 959

CHAPTER 930

AN ACT

August 3, 1956
[S. 3416]

Relative to employment for certain adult Indians on or near Indian reservations.

Indians.
Vocational training.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That in order to help adult Indians who reside on or near Indian reservations to obtain reasonable and satisfactory employment, the Secretary of the Interior is authorized to undertake a program of vocational training that provides for vocational counseling or guidance, institutional training in any recognized vocation or trade, apprenticeship, and on the job training, for periods that do not exceed twenty-four months, transportation to the place of training, and subsistence during the course of training. The program shall be available primarily to Indians who are not less than eighteen and not more than thirty-five years of age and who reside on or near an Indian reservation, and the program shall be conducted under such rules and regulations as the Secretary may prescribe. For the purposes of this program the Secretary is authorized to enter into contracts or agreements with any Federal, State, or local governmental agency, or with any private school which has a recognized reputation in the field of vocational education and has successfully obtained employment for its graduates in their respective fields of training, or with any corporation or association which has an existing apprenticeship or on-the-job training program which is recognized by industry and labor as leading to skilled employment.

Appropriation.

SEC. 2. There is authorized to be appropriated for the purposes of this Act the sum of \$3,500,000 for each fiscal year, and not to exceed \$500,000 of such sum shall be available for administrative purposes.

Approved August 3, 1956.