

[CHAPTER 190]

AN ACT

To provide for the common defense by acquiring stocks of strategic and critical materials essential to the needs of industry for the manufacture of supplies for the armed forces and the civilian population in time of a national emergency, and to encourage, as far as possible, the further development of strategic and critical materials within the United States for common defense.

June 7, 1939
[S. 572]
[Public, No. 117]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the natural resources of the United States in certain strategic and critical materials being deficient or insufficiently developed to supply the industrial, military, and naval needs of the country for common defense, it is the policy of Congress and the purpose and intent of this Act to provide for the acquisition of stocks of these materials and to encourage the development of mines and deposits of these materials within the United States, and thereby decrease and prevent wherever possible a dangerous and costly dependence of the United States upon foreign nations for supplies of these materials in times of national emergency.

Acquisition of certain strategic and critical materials.
Declaration of policy.

SEC. 2. To effectuate the policy set forth in section 1 hereof the Secretary of War, the Secretary of the Navy, and the Secretary of the Interior, acting jointly through the agency of the Army and Navy Munitions Board, are hereby authorized and directed to determine which materials are strategic and critical under the provisions of this Act and to determine the quality and quantities of such materials which shall be purchased within the amount of the appropriations authorized by this Act. In determining the materials which are strategic and critical and the quality and quantities of same to be purchased the Secretaries of State, Treasury, and Commerce shall each designate representatives to cooperate with the Secretary of War, the Secretary of the Navy, and the Secretary of the Interior in carrying out the provisions of this Act.

Army and Navy Munitions Board, determination of strategic and critical materials.

Quality and quantities to be purchased.

Cooperation of designated Departments.

SEC. 3. The Secretary of War and the Secretary of the Navy, when they deem such action appropriate because the domestic production or supply of any of the above materials is insufficient to meet the industrial, military, and naval needs of the country, shall direct the Secretary of the Treasury, through the medium of the Procurement Division of his Department and from the funds authorized by the provisions of this Act, to make purchases of such materials in accordance with specifications prepared by the Procurement Division of the Treasury Department and approved by the Secretary of War and the Secretary of the Navy, and to provide for the storage and maintenance, and, where necessary to prevent deterioration, for the rotation of such materials. To accomplish such rotation, the Secretary of the Treasury, with the approval of the Secretary of War and the Secretary of the Navy, is authorized to replace acquired stocks of any such material subject to deterioration by equivalent quantities of the same material in such manner as he deems will best serve the purposes of this Act. The Secretary of the Treasury is empowered to meet, out of the funds authorized in this Act, expenses necessary to accomplish such rotation. The Secretary shall include in his annual report to Congress a detailed statement of expenditures made under this section and the method of rotation employed. The materials so purchased shall be stored by the Procurement Division of the Treasury Department on military and naval reservations or in other locations approved by the Secretary of War and the Secretary of the Navy.

Purchases by Treasury Department when domestic production or supply insufficient to meet needs.

Storage and maintenance.

Replacement of stocks of material subject to deterioration.

Annual report of expenditures and method of rotation employed.

SEC. 4. Materials acquired under this Act except for rotation to prevent deterioration shall be used only upon the order of the Presi-

Use restricted.

dent in time of war, or when he shall find that a national emergency exists with respect to national defense as a consequence of the threat of war.

SEC. 5. Purchases under this Act shall be made in accordance with Title III of the Act of March 3, 1933 (47 Stat. 1520), but a reasonable time (not to exceed one year) shall be allowed for production and delivery from domestic sources and in the case of any such material available in the United States but which has not been developed commercially, the Secretary of War and the Secretary of the Navy may, if they find that the production of such material is economically feasible, direct the purchase of such material without requiring the vendor to give bond.

SEC. 6. For the procurement, transportation, maintenance, rotation, and storage of the materials to be acquired under this Act, there is hereby authorized to be appropriated the sum of \$100,000,000, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, during the fiscal years June 30, 1939, to and including June 30, 1943, to be expended under the joint direction of the Secretary of War and the Secretary of the Navy.

SEC. 7. (a) That the Secretary of the Interior, through the Director of the Bureau of Mines and the Director of the Geological Survey, is hereby authorized and directed to make scientific, technologic, and economic investigations concerning the extent and mode of occurrence, the development, mining, preparation, treatment, and utilization of ores and other mineral substances found in the United States or its Territories or insular possessions, which are essential to the common defense or the industrial needs of the United States, and the quantities or grades of which are inadequate from known domestic sources, in order to determine and develop domestic sources of supply, to devise new methods for the treatment and utilization of lower grade reserves, and to develop substitutes for such essential ores and mineral products; to explore and develop, on public lands and on privately owned lands, with the consent of the owner, deposits of such minerals, including core drilling, trenching, test-pitting, shaft sinking, drifting, cross-cutting, sampling, and metallurgical investigations and tests as may be necessary to determine the extent and quality of such deposits, the most suitable methods of mining and beneficiating them, and the cost at which the minerals or metals may be produced.

(b) For the purposes of carrying out the provisions of this section there is hereby authorized to be appropriated out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for each of the fiscal years ending June 30, 1940, 1941, 1942, and 1943, the sum of \$500,000, of which amount \$350,000 shall be appropriated to the Bureau of Mines and \$150,000 to the Geological Survey.

Approved, June 7, 1939.

[CHAPTER 191]

AN ACT

To amend the Act entitled "An Act to provide books for the adult blind", approved March 3, 1931.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section 1 of the Act entitled "An Act to provide books for the adult blind", approved March 3, 1931, as amended (U. S. C., 1924 edition, Supp. IV, title 2, sec. 135a), is amended by adding at the end thereof the following new sentence: "In the purchase of such books, the Librarian of Congress, without reference to section 3709 of the Revised Statutes (U. S. C., 1934 edition, title 41, sec. 5), shall give preference to non-profit-making institutions or agencies whose activities are primarily con-

Purchases of American materials.
47 Stat. 1520.
41 U. S. C. §§ 10a-10c.

Period allowed for production and delivery from domestic sources.

Appropriation authorized, fiscal years 1939-1943.
Post, p. 1326.

Supervision of expenditure.

Investigations with respect to development of domestic mineral resources.

Treatment and utilization of lower grade reserves, substitutes, etc.

Funds authorized for fiscal years 1940-1943.

Post, p. 1317.

Specific allotments.

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[Public, No. 118]

Books, etc., for adult blind.

46 Stat. 1487.
2 U. S. C. § 135a;
Supp. IV, § 135a.

Purchase of, preference to certain institutions or agencies.
R. S. § 3709.
41 U. S. C. § 5.