

exchanged therefor: *Provided further*, That either party to any such exchange may make reservations of easements, rights of use, and other interests and rights. No fee shall be charged for any such exchange with respect to land owned by the State of Oregon or any county thereof, except one-half of the cost of publishing notice of such proposed exchange.

Reservations of easements, etc.

State-owned lands; fees for exchanges.

SEC. 2. The Secretary of the Interior is hereby authorized to perform any and all acts and to make such rules and regulations as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act.

Administrative duties of Secretary of Interior.

SEC. 3. The Act of May 31, 1918 (40 Stat. 593), section 3 of the Act of June 4, 1920 (41 Stat. 758), and all other Acts or parts of Acts in conflict with the provisions of this Act, to the extent of such conflict, are hereby repealed.

Designated provisions repealed. 40 Stat. 593; 41 Stat. 758.

Approved, July 31, 1939.

[CHAPTER 408]

AN ACT

To increase the amount of Federal aid to State or Territorial homes for the support of disabled soldiers and sailors of the United States.

August 1, 1939  
[H. R. 4647]  
[Public, No. 250]

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That the Act entitled "An Act to provide aid to State or Territorial homes for the support of disabled soldiers and sailors of the United States", approved August 27, 1888, as amended (U. S. C., 1934 edition, title 24, sec. 134), is amended by striking out in the first paragraph thereof "\$120 per annum" and inserting in lieu thereof "\$240 per annum".

State or Territorial homes for disabled soldiers and sailors. Federal aid increased. 25 Stat. 450. 24 U. S. C. § 134.

SEC. 2. The amendment made by this Act shall apply to payments with respect to the care given to disabled soldiers and sailors on and after the first day of the month next following the month during which this Act is enacted: *Provided*, That said payments shall be made regardless of whether said veteran may be receiving domiciliary care or hospitalization in said home and the appropriations of the Veterans' Administration for medical, hospital, and domiciliary care shall be available for this purpose: *Provided further*, That no payment to a State or Territory under this Act shall be made for any period prior to the date upon which the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs determines that the veteran on whose account such payment is requested is eligible for such care in a Veterans' Administration facility.

Effective date.

*Provisos.*  
Payments not barred because of domiciliary care, etc.

No payments prior to determination of eligibility.

Approved, August 1, 1939.

[CHAPTER 409]

AN ACT

To provide for the registry of pursers and surgeons as staff officers on vessels of the United States, and for other purposes.

August 1, 1939  
[H. R. 6076]  
[Public, No. 251]

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That there shall be registered staff officers in the United States merchant marine in the following grades: (1) Chief purser, (2) purser, (3) senior assistant purser, (4) junior assistant purser, and (5) surgeon. The Secretary of Commerce (in this Act called the Secretary) shall register, and issue certificates of registry to, qualified individuals applying for registry in such grades, as hereinafter provided, and every such individual when so registered and serving in the staff department on a vessel of the United States shall rank as a staff officer on such vessel.

Merchant marine. Registry of pursers and surgeons as staff officers; grades.

To constitute a separate department; pursers' clerks included.

Registered chief pursers.

Registered senior assistants and junior assistants.

Citizenship requirement.

Qualifications.

For registry as surgeons.

Oath of office.

Staff officers members of Naval Reserve Corps, insignia on uniforms.

Prescribed type, etc.

Unlawful wearing.

Employment of unregistered staff officers unlawful; penalty.

*Proviso.*  
If no registered staff officer available at time of sailing.

Not included in inspection certificate.  
Penal provisions.  
Altering, etc., certificate of registry.

*Proviso.*  
Exceptions.

Officers registered under the provisions of this Act and pursers' clerks shall constitute a separate and independent department on vessels of the United States to be known as the staff department under the charge of the senior registered purser on such vessel, who shall be responsible solely to the master. On oceangoing vessels licensed to carry more than one hundred passengers, such officer in charge of the staff department shall be a registered chief purser; and whenever more than three persons are employed in the staff department on such vessels, exclusive of surgeons, there shall be a minimum of one registered senior assistant purser and one registered junior assistant purser in such staff department. No person shall be eligible for registry as a staff officer under the provisions of this Act who is not a citizen of the United States.

**SEC. 2.** No applicant for registry under the provisions of this Act shall be required to take an examination to qualify therefor, but the Secretary shall require satisfactory proof of good character, citizenship, and such minimum periods of service as he shall deem necessary to establish the requisite knowledge, skill, and experience to qualify applicants for the respective stations. Applicants for registry as surgeon shall be required to possess a valid license as physician and surgeon issued under the authority of a State or Territory of the United States or the District of Columbia.

**SEC. 3.** Each staff officer receiving a certificate of registry under the provisions of this Act shall make oath or affirmation before an officer empowered to administer oaths, to be designated by the Secretary, that he will faithfully and honestly perform all the duties required of him by law. No such staff officer shall be required to obtain any other certificate of service or efficiency or behavior as a condition of service in such capacity other than as herein provided.

**SEC. 4.** (a) Staff officers registered under the provisions of this Act who are members of the Naval Reserve Corps shall wear on their uniforms such special distinguishing insignia as may be approved by the Secretary of the Navy.

(b) The uniform stripes, decoration, or other insignia to be worn by such officers shall be of gold braid or woven gold or silver material, and no member of the ship's crew other than such staff officers shall be allowed to wear any uniform with such staff officer's identifying insignia.

**SEC. 5.** (a) It shall be unlawful to employ any person or for any person to serve in any grade or perform the duties of any grade specified in section 1 of this Act on any such vessel of the United States designated therein unless he shall be in bona fide possession of a certificate of registry, issued under the provisions of this Act, as an officer in such grade; and anyone violating this provision shall be liable to a penalty of \$100 for each offense: *Provided*, That in the event no registered staff officer is available and obtainable at the time of sailing, the vessel may sail with an unregistered staff officer or without any staff officer: *Provided further*, That such staff officer shall not be included in the vessel's inspection certificate.

(b) Any staff officer registered under the provisions of this Act who shall change by addition, interpolation, or erasure of any kind, any certificate of registry referred to in this section shall have his registry and his certificate of registry revoked and be punished by a fine of not more than \$100: *Provided*, That the provisions of this Act shall not apply to any vessel of the United States operated on bays, sounds, inland waterways, and lakes, other than the Great Lakes, or to passenger ferries and car ferries operated on the Great Lakes.

(c) Any registry or certificate of registry issued under the authority of this Act to any staff officer shall be suspended or revoked upon satisfactory proof of bad conduct, inattention to his duties, or the willful violation of any provisions of this Act applicable to him, in the same manner and with like procedure as is provided in the case of suspension or revocation of licenses of officers under the provisions of section 4450 of the Revised Statutes, as amended.

SEC. 6. The sixth paragraph of section 4596 of the Revised Statutes, as amended, is amended to read as follows:

“Sixth. For assaulting any master, mate, pilot, engineer, or staff officer, by imprisonment for not more than two years.”

SEC. 7. The Secretary of Commerce shall prescribe rules and regulations to carry out the provisions of this Act.

SEC. 8. As used in this Act the term “vessel of the United States” shall mean any vessel registered, enrolled, or licensed under the laws of the United States, but shall not include a fishing or whaling vessel or a yacht.

SEC. 9. The provisions of section 5 (a) of this Act shall take effect one year from the date of the enactment of this Act.

Approved, August 1, 1939.

[CHAPTER 410]

AN ACT

To prevent pernicious political activities.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That it shall be unlawful for any person to intimidate, threaten, or coerce, or to attempt to intimidate, threaten, or coerce, any other person for the purpose of interfering with the right of such other person to vote or to vote as he may choose, or of causing such other person to vote for, or not to vote for, any candidate for the office of President, Vice President, Presidential elector, Member of the Senate, or Member of the House of Representatives at any election held solely or in part for the purpose of selecting a President, a Vice President, a Presidential elector, or any Member of the Senate or any Member of the House of Representatives, Delegates or Commissioners from the Territories and insular possessions.

SEC. 2. It shall be unlawful for any person employed in any administrative position by the United States, or by any department, independent agency, or other agency of the United States (including any corporation controlled by the United States or any agency thereof, and any corporation all of the capital stock of which is owned by the United States or any agency thereof), to use his official authority for the purpose of interfering with, or affecting the election or the nomination of any candidate for the office of President, Vice President, Presidential elector, Member of the Senate, or Member of the House of Representatives, Delegates or Commissioners from the Territories and insular possessions.

SEC. 3. It shall be unlawful for any person, directly or indirectly, to promise any employment, position, work, compensation, or other benefit, provided for or made possible in whole or in part by any Act of Congress, to any person as consideration, favor, or reward for any political activity or for the support of or opposition to any candidate or any political party in any election.

SEC. 4. Except as may be required by the provisions of subsection (b), section 9 of this Act, it shall be unlawful for any person to deprive, attempt to deprive, or threaten to deprive, by any means, any

Misconduct, etc.

R. S. § 4450.  
46 U. S. C. § 239;  
Supp. IV, § 239(d)-(g).

R. S. § 4596.  
46 U. S. C. § 701.

Assault on master, etc.

Rules and regulations.

Term construed.

Effective date of section 5 (a) provisions.

August 2, 1939  
[S. 1871]

[Public, No. 252]

Prevention of pernicious political activities.

Elections of Federal officials, including Presidential electors.

Intimidation or coercion of voters unlawful.

Use of official authority by anyone in administrative position for purpose of interfering with election unlawful.

Promise of benefit as reward for support of or opposition to a candidate or political party.

Race, creed, etc., discrimination in work relief or relief forbidden.